Aplus GLOBAL Pinoy / A19

Global Pinoy a new Sunday section dedicated to the Overseas Filipino Worker

■ APLUS / A17 to A24

PDI's latest readers' service for more news in Metro, World, on OFWs

■ NEWS / A9

Yugoslavian strongman Milosevic found dead in his detention cell at The Hague

■ LIFESTYLE / D1

Special monthly section on homes and gardens

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Sunday, March 12, 2006 ★★ 14 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 94 P18 website: www.inq7.net

'Revolutionary' seeds clouds, collects Hello Kitty

R.A.M. AKO! RAIN ASSISTANCE MAN!

By Arlyn dela Cruz
Contributor

HE IS AN OFFICER AND A self-confessed revolutionary but Capt. Giemel Espino does not plant seeds of rebellion.

Espino is not from the ranks of the Magdalo group,

REVOLUTIONARY/ A15

GMA backs AFP no-amnesty position vs military rebels

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO FULLY SUPports the military brass' position not to grant amnesty to "adventurists" and the ongoing purge of "traitors" to the chain of command.

This was revealed yesterday by her chief of staff, Michael Defensor, who also took issue with Sen. Rodolfo Biazon for airing a warning on Fri-

GMA/ A15

Noli: GMA must explain

Veep advises boss it's time to clear air on 'Garci'

By Cynthia D. Balana

IN AN UNPRECEDENTED advice to his boss, Vice President Noli de Castro yesterday said President Macapagal-Arroyo should squarely address the "Hello Garci" scandal in order to stem the restiveness in some sectors of society, particularly the military.

De Castro said he was confident that the President would be able to fully explain to the people her side in the matter. He expressed the belief that it was not Ms Arroyo's intention to skirt the issue, but that emotions were running high when the wiretapping controversy first broke out.

He stressed that while it was not his habit to offer unsolicited advice to the President, he believed that she should address the issue once and for all so that the opposition would stop using it against her.

"*Sa palagay ko ay panahon na upang harapin ng ating mahal na Pangulo ang problemang ito* (I think it's time our dear President addressed this problem)," De Castro told the INQUIRER.

"*Ipaliwanag niya sa taong-bayan ang 'Hello Garci' tapes, at sa palagay ko naman at kayang-kaya naman niya itong gawin at mauunawaan naman siya ng ating mga kababayan* (She should explain to the people the 'Hello Garci' tapes. I think she can do this very well and the people will understand her)," he said.

He added that it was up to the people whether to believe Ms Arroyo or not.

The scandal involves purported

NOLI/ A15

ONLY IN THE PHILIPPINES. At her regular roundtable discussion at Kalayaan Hall on Saturday, President Arroyo presents a 1.8 kg LPG tank (2.7 and 5 kg tanks are also available) as a take-off on the Pinoy style of buying *tingi*/sachets, an innovation for homemakers at their wits' end over the soaring prices of cooking gas, among everything else. Major oil players like Shell and Petron rolled back their LPG prices yesterday.

LYN RILLON

Now it can be told: Who's who in civilian council

By Fe Zamora

THE MILITARY PLAN TO WITHDRAW support from President Macapagal-Arroyo was described by Lt. Col. Alexander Balutan as a "constitutional rescue" resorted to because "the democratic institutions" had failed to resolve the political crisis spawned by basically two issues: The alleged cheating in the May 2004 elections and the "Hello Garci" tapes.

"It was not a coup or a power grab. It was a constitutional rescue which the Armed Forces would exercise in accordance with its constitutional mandate as protector of the state and defender of the people," Balutan, who testified at the Senate late last year over the 2004 poll fraud in Lanao, told the INQUIRER.

A former Marine battalion commander, Balutan faces court-martial for disregarding a ban on government executives testifying at the Senate last year without Ms Arroyo's approval.

INQUIRER sources in civil society and military groups involved in the planned breakaway on Feb. 24, confirmed that a "transition council" was to have assumed the functions of the "leadership" of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government immediately after President Macapagal-Arroyo and Vice President Noli de Castro were toppled.

The sources clarified that "only the leaders (of the executive, legislative and judicial branches) would be removed, the civil servants would stay.

The INQUIRER sources' disclosures coincided with a report by the Philippine Army about a broad-spectrum leftist-and-rightist conspiracy to oust Ms Arroyo and replace her with an interim council.

According to one of the INQUIRER's military sources, the council would have been "headed by General Senga, if he agreed."

(Senga has strongly denied that he would be in charge of a "caretaker government." He said he was not capable of running the government.) *(Story on Page A8)*

President Arroyo's former executive secretary, Renato de Villa, and former Cabinet official Oscar Orbos, Sen. Panfilo Lacson, former Sen. Gregorio Honasan, former Vice President Teofisto Guingona, defeated presidential candidate Bro.

NOW/ A8

ROY AZARCON/CONTRIBUTOR

A WHOLE NEW WORLD opens up for a dozen marine turtles hatched a month ago at Club Paradise in Dimakya Island, Palawan. The resort, recognized in the province as an unofficial marine turtle sanctuary, let loose its shell-backed visitors as part of its rear-and-release program.

Endangered baby turtles follow the sun to survive

By Blanche S. Rivera

DIMAKYA ISLAND, PALAWAN—They followed the sun.

Feeling the rough sand for only the second time since they were hatched on this resort island, a dozen marine turtles inched their way toward the waters off the coast, following the fading light of sunset as their guide to a vast new home.

The month-old creatures were the last batch of some 270 Hawksbill turtles that Club Paradise had been releasing to the sea in the past four months as part of a rear-and-release program for its shell-backed visitors.

Club Paradise, which sits on this 19-hectare patch of white sand an hour by boat from the main island of Busuanga, is recognized in the province as an unofficial marine turtle sanctuary.

It is a favorite nesting site of the endangered turtles among the northern Palawan isles, yielding up to 300 hatchlings a month during the peak nesting season from March to June.

"It's extremely important for resorts to take responsibility ... because the most vulnerable areas [for turtles] are those taken over by resorts," James Humphreys, Club Paradise's German marine biologist, said in an interview.

ENDANGERED/ A4

MANUEL Lagua holds his daughter Faith Ivy Lagua, 6 months old, in his arms at the Philippine Heart Center. RUDY ESPERAS

Foundation appeals to Mike Arroyo who had change of heart

By Jerry E. Esplanada

INITIALLY, FIRST GENTLEMAN JOSE Miguel "Mike" Arroyo was all heart.

He had agreed to lead a nationwide fund campaign to give free open-heart surgery to thousands of poor Filipinos, which the Heart Foundation of the Philippines called a "very worthy cause."

But President Macapagal-Arroyo's controversial husband later begged off, claiming he had had enough of the criticism thrown at him.

"We met with the First Gentleman a couple of times. At first, he agreed to help the foundation. But later on, he declined. He said he's being hit left and right by administration critics," disclosed HFP president Dr. Francisco Dizon.

After raising P160 million for the training of Filipino athletes in last year's Southeast Asian Games, Arroyo was recently bashed for treating the RP contingent's gold medalists to a Hong Kong holiday.

Then came Manny Pacquiao's knockout victory over Mexico's Erik Morales

FOUNDATION/ A4

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Eastern and southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms becoming widespread rains over Palawan which may trigger flashfloods and landslides. The rest of Luzon will be partly cloudy with isolated rainshowers.

COMPILED BY KATE PEDROSO, PDI RESEARCH/03/11/06 SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Joker hits public indifference

Senator says GMA, gov't getting away with Charter violations

By Philip C. Tubeza

WHERE IS THE OUTRAGE?

Maverick administration Sen. Joker Arroyo yesterday pounded the gong over public indifference over what he said was the government's continued violation of basic civil liberties.

Arroyo, a long-time champion of human rights, issued the alarm after observing that President Macapagal-Arroyo was shedding her democratic upbringing and disclosing that a "fascist clique" was gaining the upper hand in Malacañang.

"It is unfortunate that GMA is gradually losing her democratic moorings, and that makes her an easy prey to a fascist clique in place in Malacañang," Arroyo said.

He accused the government of "conditioning the minds of the public that what it is doing unconstitutionally is the right thing."

He said the violations of the Constitution included the dispersal of peaceful rallies, the intimidation of mass media and warrantless arrests.

He called attention to the breaking up of a gathering of women protestors in Quezon City during the commemoration of International Women's Day on March 8, where Akbayan party-list Rep. Risa Hontiveros-Baraquel was bodily carried off by the police, ostensibly for her own safety.

No righteous anger

"Unfortunately, the public is slowly accepting and are getting accustomed to this. The violations of the Constitution have transmogrified into ordinariness. There is no more righteous anger. The protests, even in the Senate, have become mechanical reactions," Arroyo said.

"That is why we have to bring this back to the consciousness of the people that what the government is doing is committing one violation of the Constitution after another," he said

Fascistic tendencies

"All these senseless dispersing of otherwise peaceful rallies and illegal arrests betray the administration's insecurity, if not its fascistic tendencies. Or is the administration flexing its muscle and testing the waters of a dangerous cesspool?" he added.

Arroyo said the police could not disperse or arrest protestors carrying banners calling for the President's resignation because this was constitutionally-protected free speech.

He said applications for permits to hold rallies had to be deemed approved if local executives did not act on them two days after they were filed. He said the question to be asked was not "Why not get a permit?" but "Why are they not given the permit they have applied for?"

Truncheons for women

"The administration, as a matter of policy, would do well not to squander the valuable time, resources and goodwill of the Philippine National Police by involving itself in the senseless breaking up of demonstrations. Imagine dispersing women's rallies violently with truncheons," Arroyo said.

"Are demonstrators law-breakers? No, if they are exercising their right or freedom of expression and to peaceably assemble to redress grievances under the Constitution," he said.

Arroyo assailed "the mindset of the police" which held that ralliers "are out to foment trouble and thus, the need to preemptively break them up."

"That is very dangerous because that encourages fascistic tendencies, which must be curbed. Now is the right time and the administration can start the reeducation of the police, who are mostly good and decent but are compelled to follow less-than-lawful orders," Arroyo said.

Mining firms required to invest in environmental protection

By Gil C. Cabacungan, Jr.

MINING FIRMS CAN EXPLOIT the country's resources but they will have to spend a certain amount of their investments for environmental protection.

President Macapagal-Arroyo has required mining companies to set aside at least 10 percent of their capital expenditures to fund initial environmental expenses.

"President Arroyo has been sensitive to the issues and concerns on mining raised by various groups. But she is confident that strong safeguards and safety nets for the protection of environmental standards can be met without forsaking the potential of this industry to generate more jobs and to close the poverty gap," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye in a statement.

Mining companies will also be required to set aside three to five percent of their direct mining and milling costs for annual environmental programs.

Insurance coverage

To ensure that mining companies would pay for any mining accidents that might cause heavy damage to the environment, the President has demanded that they put up a mandatory environmental insurance coverage through a performance bond and Environmental Pollution, Impairment and Clean-up Liability Insurance.

Speaker Jose de Venecia earlier revealed that the President had agreed to review and probably amend the Mining Act which opened the country's mineral resources to foreign mining companies during a meeting with Church leaders, some of her Cabinet officials and lawmakers.

But based on Bunye's statement, the President was merely interested in strictly enforcing the environmental safeguards through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Caved in to pressure

Malacañang had earlier promised Church leaders that the government would revoke all permits of mining firms that fail to meet environment safety standards and would impose a moratorium on new mining permits.

Malacañang, however, did not fulfill this commitment and gave in to pressure from mining companies whom the President had courted to invest in the Philippines after the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the Mining Act.

Yesterday, opposition Sen. Jamby Madrigal said the President should suspend Mineral Production Sharing Agreements (MPSAs) and not issue new ones while she reviews the Mining Act to prove her sincerity.

"If Mrs. Arroyo is sincere in her intentions of amending and reviewing the Mining Act as she committed to some bishops, I challenge her to suspend all pending review of the law," Madrigal said.

Reyes app't opposed

As this developed, Madrigal has asked bishops and environmental groups in Samar to oppose the appointment of Secretary Angelo Reyes to the DENR.

In a public hearing held at the bishop's residence in Borongan, Eastern Samar, Madrigal urged Bishops Leonardo Medroso of Borongan, Jose Palma of Calbayog, Emmanuel Trance of Catarman and concerned citizens to make position papers and to attend the confirmation hearings of the Commission on Appointment for Reyes soon.

"This government and the DENR are doing nothing but selling our ancestral domain for plunder to the highest bidder. They want quick money by raping the environment," she said.

Madrigal braved the inclement weather in coming to Borongan for her first hearing outside the Senate on Senate Resolution No. 375, which is looking into the reported displacement of indigenous peoples due to the logging operations of San Jose Timber Corp. *With reports from Philip C. Tubeza and Cyrain Cabueñas, PDI Visayas Bureau*

BMW Premium Selection
www.bmw.com.ph
Sheer Driving Pleasure

BMW Premium Selection.
Pre-owned Automobiles.

BMW Premium Selection program benefits:
- 12 month or 20,000 kilometer warranty
- comprehensive 100-point technical check
- certified vehicle history
- flexible ownership packages

Sometimes brand is more important than new.

Autohaus BMW

BMW 116i
2005 Titanium Silver
4,000kms P1,545,000

BMW 118i Exec.
2005 Titanium Silver
4,000kms P1,770,000

BMW 318i M Sport
2004 Topaz Blue
13,000kms P1,800,000

BMW 318i M Sport
2002 Titanium Silver
30,000kms P1,400,000

BMW 325i Exec.
2004 Titanium Silver
12,000kms P2,100,000

BMW 325i Exec.
2004 Steel Grey
8,000kms P2,200,000

BMW 325i Exec.
2004 Titanium Silver
12,000kms P2,100,000

BMW 325i Exec.
2004 Titanium Silver
8,000kms P2,200,000

BMW 330i Sport
2005 Arctic
4,000kms P3,850,000

BMW 525i Exec.
2004 Silver Grey
6,000kms P4,250,000

BMW 525i Exec.
2004 Titanium Silver
4,000kms P4,400,000

BMW 525i Exec.
2004 Amethyst Grey
9,000kms P4,150,000

BMW 530i
2004 Titanium Silver
4,000kms P4,550,000

BMW X3 2.0d
2005 Silver Grey
7,200kms P2,900,000

BMW X3 2.5i Exec.
2004 Alpine White
5,000kms P3,500,000

BMW Z4 2.5i
2005 Titanium Silver
1,000kms P3,300,000

Address Telephone Fax
184 E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue (02) 638 0734 (02) 438 0419
Libis, Quezon City

Prestige Cars BMW

BMW 316i
1996 Cosmos Black
60,000kms P450,000

BMW 318i Exec.
2004 Titanium Silver
25,000kms P1,750,000

BMW 318i Exec.
2004 Orient Blue
26,000kms P1,750,000

BMW 318i M-Sport
2004 Topaz Blue
22,870kms P1,800,000

BMW 320i
2005 Arctic
10,316kms P2,110,500

BMW 320i
2005 Titanium Silver
11,057kms P2,110,500

BMW 323i A
1999 Cosmos Black
65,000kms P1,100,000

BMW 325i Exec.
2004 Sienna Red
30,000kms P1,980,000

BMW 325i M-Sport
2004 Imola Red
12,392kms P2,380,000

BMW 523i
1997 Dunkel Blue
78,000kms P1,150,000

BMW X5 3.0d Exec.
2002 Pearl Beige
36,000kms P3,258,000

BMW X5 3.0i Exec.
2004 Black Sapphire
13,153kms P4,550,000

BMW X5 3.0i Exec.
2004 Black Sapphire
15,000kms P4,350,000

BMW X5 3.0d Exec.
2005 Titanium Silver
5,000kms P4,800,000

BMW Z4 2.5i Road.
2005 Sterling Grey
2,500kms P3,000,000

Address Telephone Fax
2324 Pasong Tamo Ext. (02) 892 8127 to 29 (02) 816 7325
Makati City

Autozentrum BMW

BMW 118i Sport
2005 Sparkling Graphite
1,977kms P1,950,000

BMW 120i
2005 Quartz Blue
6,623kms P1,975,500

BMW 318i Exec.
2005 Sienna Red
14,756kms P1,879,000

BMW 320i
2005 Monaco Blue
7,388kms P2,250,000

BMW 320i Exec.
2005 Arctic
2,197kms P2,450,000

BMW 325i Exec.
2006 Steel Grey
5,235kms P2,311,000

BMW 325i Exec.
2003 Titanium Silver
50,115kms P1,739,000

BMW 325i Exec.
2006 Steel Grey
1,905kms P2,367,000

BMW 520i Limo
2004 Titanium Silver
12,112kms P3,519,000

BMW X3 2.0d
2006 Blue Waters
1,064kms P3,123,840

BMW X3 2.5 SAV
2004 Black Sapphire
15,009kms P2,930,000

BMW X3 2.5 SAV
2004 Mystic Blue
13,102kms P2,930,000

BMW X3 3.0 Exec.
2004 Titanium Silver
3,412kms P3,858,000

BMW X5 3.0 Exec.
2004 Titanium Silver
9,868kms P4,550,000

BMW X5 3.0 Exec.
2004 Sterling Grey
11,100kms P4,550,000

Address Telephone Fax
Madrigal Business Park (02) 772 6021 (02) 772 6025
Commerce Avenue
Alabang, Muntinlupa City

Klassik BMW

BMW 120i Sport
2005 Black Sapphire
4,600kms P2,050,000

BMW 316i
2004 Titanium Silver
1,362kms P1,500,000

BMW 320i
2005 Black Sapphire
5,140kms P2,170,000

BMW 320i Exec.
2005 Titanium Silver
2,777kms P2,450,000

BMW 325i Exec.
2002 Black Sapphire
46,000kms P1,500,000

Address Telephone Fax
20 G. Araneta Avenue, (02) 781 6688 (02) 7314433
Quezon City

Premier Cars BMW

BMW 120i Exec.
2005 Titanium Silver
6,402kms P1,890,000

BMW 530d Exec.
2005 Black Sapphire
5,580kms P4,500,000

BMW X3 3.0i Exec.
2004 Black Sapphire
15,831kms P3,700,000

BMW Z4 2.5i
2005 Sterling Grey
3,622kms P3,000,000

BMW X5 3.0d Exec.
2004 Alpine White
6,610kms P4,800,000

Address Telephone Fax
CGIC Bldg., San Fernando- (045) 963 7777 (045) 963 3355
Olongapo Highway
San Fernando City, Pampanga

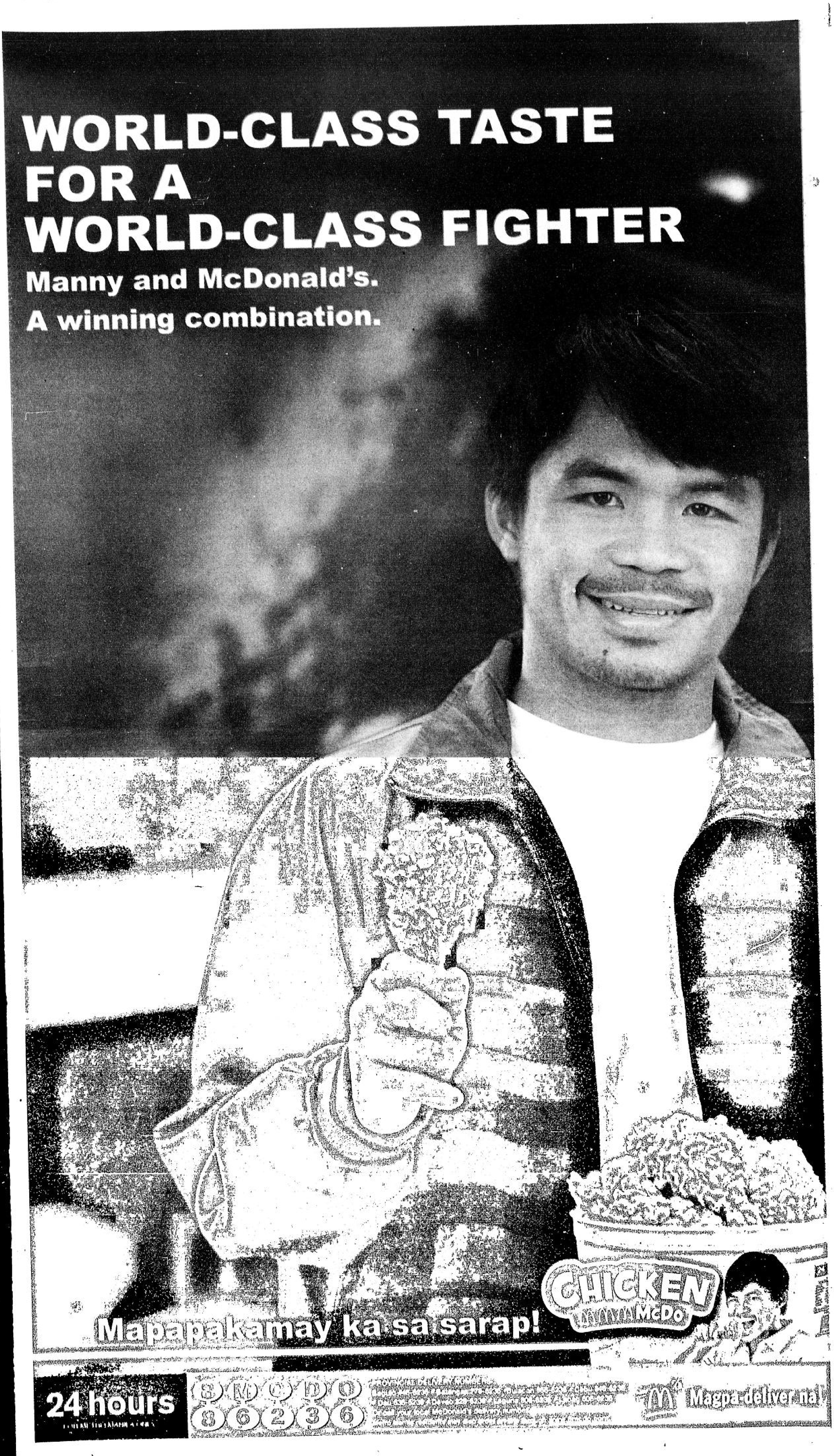
BMW Xpo 2006

BMW Xpo Month Activities
March 1 to 31, 2006
All authorized BMW Dealerships
- 10% downpayment, 5 years financing on all BMW Premium Selection Vehicles
- Chance to win 1 year worth of fuel from Petron for every BMW purchase
- Individual dealer activities

BMW Xpo Central Event Activities
March 17 to 19, 2006
BMW Pavilion, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig
- Chance to win a brand new BMW X3 for every test drive
- Surprise gifts for BMW Xpo Central Event visitors

Log on to the BMW Premium Selection Online Car Finder (www.bmw.com.ph) for a complete listing of vehicles.

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK
Drive your Dream AUTO LOAN
In cooperation with BPI Family Bank.


WORLD-CLASS TASTE FOR A WORLD-CLASS FIGHTER
Manny and McDonald's.
A winning combination.
Mapapakamay ka sa sarap!
CHICKEN McDo
24 hours
8MCDO
86236
Magpa-deliver na!

Foundation appeals to Mike Arroyo who had change of heart

From page A1

on Jan. 22 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Arroyo was criticized anew for climbing the ring to congratulate the Filipino boxing icon.

Last straw

That proved to be the last straw for the staunch Pacquiao supporter and sports patron, said people close to the First Gentleman.

Dizon and Philippine Heart Center director Dr. Ludgerio Torres, among other HFP founding members, expressed hope that Arroyo would reconsider his decision.

Time is running out for those on the PHC waiting list for free heart operations, Torres warned.

From 4,000 charity patients in 2002, the Heart Center backlog is "now down to more than 800 cases, about 40 percent of whom will die while waiting for the operation," according to the PHC head.

An open heart operation costs at least P100,000.

"Tens of millions of pesos will allow us to totally erase the backlog. But we don't have that kind of money. As the population grows, new cases are added to the waiting list. *Walang katapusan 'yan* (It's never-ending) and for the hospital an endless problem," Torres said.

A GIRL IS WAITING. Mary Grace Igadna, 5, is one of over 800 indigent patients on the waiting list of the Heart Center in need of open heart surgery. RUDY ESPERAS

NOW A HEALTHY 38-year-old, Robert Vargas was a beneficiary of the Heart Foundation of the Philippines when he was a blue baby at 6 years old (inset). He appeals to Mr. Mike Arroyo to resume helping in the fund drive. He himself is willing to donate something from his meager pay as a security guard to pay back for his free operation.

First ladies to the rescue

Both former first ladies Amelita "Ming" Ramos and Dr. Loi Estrada had actively taken part in past HFP fund campaigns.

During her term as honorary chair of the "Pusong Nagmamahal" fund drive, Ramos raised close to P10 million from golf tournaments sponsored by Duty Free Philippines, Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) and the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor).

The events also got the backing of business giants Fil-Estate Land, International Container Terminal Services Inc. and Toyota Motor Phils. Corp., among others.

Estrada, now a senator, launched the HFP fund drive in Malacañang.

In 2000 alone, she managed to raise more than P7.6 million with donations from business tycoons Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco, Manuel Pangilinan and Lucio Tan.

Then Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Angelo Reyes (now natural resources secretary) and former Foreign Secretary Domingo Siazon also helped in the fund drive.

Dizon noted that during a Zambales surgical outreach program, "Dr. Loi sent additional money but the funds disappeared."

No. 1 killer

The HFP used to get about P10 million from its annual fund campaigns. "The funds have allowed the foundation to provide assistance to 7,000-plus indigent patients during the past 34 years," said Dizon.

"Lately, we've slowed down because money isn't coming. We're having difficulty raising funds. We're also getting less requests for aid. Why? Because we have been turning down the same requests due to financial constraints," he lamented.

Last week, the HFP gathered popular bands Orange and Lemons, Freestyle and Juan dela Cruz Band at the Folk Arts Theater in "Rock da Band," its Valentine's fund-raising concert.

Like the foundation, the Heart Center is also plagued by money problems. The state-run medical facility has been getting only P150 million in annual government subsidies.

"*Di tumataas, di bumababa* (The subsidy neither increased or decreased) during the past 10 years. Despite the fact that cardiovascular disease has been the country's No. 1 killer disease for 10 years now. The state's priorities are to fund common diseases like tuberculosis, pneumonia and diarrhea. To think that the PHC is the country's one and only heart center serving the entire 80 million population, unlike Taiwan where 11 heart centers support its 20 million population or Singapore which has three heart centers for its 2 million people," Torres pointed out.

Imelda Marcos' project

It was the HFP that convinced then first lady Imelda Marcos to put up, in the early '70s, what was initially called Philippine Heart Center for Asia, established under Presidential Decree No. 673.

On Feb. 14, 1975, the PHC was formally opened by Marcos and her foreign guests led by the late Dr. Christiaan Barnard, the South African cardiac surgeon who made history eight years earlier by performing the world's first heart transplant.

Other world-renowned heart experts who graced the PHC inauguration included Doctors Donald Effler, Charles Bailey and Denton Cooley.

HFP founding chair Dr. Avenilo Aventura was the first PHC head while Dr. Esperanza Cabral (now health secretary) became the hospital's first woman director in 1986.

Blue baby

Like some HFP old-timers, R&B Tube Ice Plant security guard Robert Vargas also hopes Arroyo would change his mind.

Vargas, an ex-HFP aid beneficiary, was born with a defective heart.

At age six, Vargas, a "blue baby," was operated on by Torres and Aventura. In 1980, he underwent follow-up surgery.

Now 38 and feeling healthier than ever, Vargas has appealed to other former HFP referrals to support the organization's fund campaign.

He said he wouldn't mind "donating a few pesos from my small monthly pay [of P6,000] just to be able to help those in need."

Rheumatic heart

Torres said they would like other surviving Heart Center patients like Iluminada Asoy-Sanguyo, the very first beneficiary of the HFP program, and Edgar Robles, to help spread the word about the fund drive.

On Feb. 14, 1972, then 18-year-old Sanguyo (who had rheumatic-heart disease) was operated on for mitral stenosis by a team of surgeons at the V. Luna General Hospital, also in Quezon City. Torres was part of the surgical team.

Torres recalled: "Both [then] President Ferdinand Marcos and the First Lady watched the televised operation. Right after the surgery, the President called and congratulated us. He said, OK you will have your Heart Center. Just to make sure, he sent Mrs. Marcos the following day to check if Sanguyo was really alive. She was so impressed when she saw that the patient could already walk."

Now in her early 50s and a mother of two, Sanguyo is based in Saudi Arabia with her diplomat-husband.

Hole in the heart

Robles, 38, is an OFW working in the United Arab Emirates. He underwent surgical correction of a "hole in the heart" when he was eight, according to HFP files.

"Robles, the eldest of four children of a financially handicapped couple, suffered from congenital heart disease. Had he not been operated on at a young age, he probably would now be a cardiac cripple," said the foundation.

Despite increasing operational costs, the PHC has promised to continue serving the poorest of the poor.

The East Avenue, Quezon City-based hospital averages 200 new cases a day in its outpatient department. Some 80 percent of them are charity cases.

For the inpatient section "it's reversed—80 private and 20 charity," Torres said.

Out of some 40,000 operations conducted by the hospital during the past 31 years, about 30 percent were charity cases.

"The ratio used to be 60-40, with 60 percent representing private patients and 40 percent charity. But lately, with costing for charity going up and our subsidy stuck at P150 million, it became 80-20, with indigents representing the 20 percent," Torres said.

He expressed hope that "figures for indigents would go back to 40 percent. That is why we make it a point to utilize income derived from private patients in charity cases."

Quality service

Current rates for PHC surgical procedures range from P46,000 for a coronary angiogram (with a three-day stay in a ward) to P579,450 for special complex congenitals (with 10-day confinement in a private room).

PHC private room packages are "affordable by those in the middle income bracket. In private hospitals like Asian [Hospital] and St. Luke's [Medical Center], a coronary bypass costs between P800,000 and P1 million," said Torres.

At the Heart Center, the same procedure costs from P343,350 to P518,580.

The hospital "has gained a reputation as one of the busiest congenital heart surgery centers in the region where patients receive quality service at reasonable prices," said the PHC website.

It has a high survival rate for open-heart surgery patients, too, Torres said. "For coronary bypass, it's 99 percent. It's 95-96 percent for congenital heart disease. For valve replacement, it's 97 percent."

The hospital, which has a well-trained and highly experienced medical staff, expects to save more lives with new heart-scanning technology, courtesy of a P450-million "part-loan, part-grant" from the Dutch government.

New equipment

On Feb. 14, the PHC inaugurated its nuclear medicine and cardiac catheterization laboratory and a CT scan which is capable of producing the most detailed images available of the heart's arteries without surgery.

The hospital is set to acquire, among other things, two coronary angiograms—touted as the "gold standard for viewing the arteries that nourish the heart"—and a magnetic resonance imaging machine or MRI.

The P150-million MRI not only reveals the layers of fat that envelop most hearts, radio signals emitted by oscillating atoms in heart cells are also converted by a computer into either still or moving 3-D images.

The PHC already has four echocardiograms (which cost around P15 million each) but they need to be updated from 2- to 3-dimensional.

Prevention is best

New technology notwithstanding, heart transplants are not likely to take place at the Heart Center in the coming years, Torres said.

"Aside from cultural-religious reasons, the procedure is too costly. With a price tag of P1 million per transplant, we can operate on five to seven charity patients. So why use your scarce resources on a single operation?" Torres said.

The PHC head dispelled the myth that many Filipinos with sick hearts die because they fail to undergo heart surgery or get a new heart.

Torres observed that "many seek medical advice when it's too late. *Kung di grabe, di pa papasok ng ospital para patingin sa doktor. Ugaling Pinoy* (If it's not life-threatening, they will not go to a hospital or consult a doctor. It's the Pinoy attitude)."

He added: "Prevention is still the best medicine."

Endangered baby turtles follow the sun to survive

From page A1

Humphreys led the release of the baby turtles on March 3, to the delight of the foreign guests who make up about 70 percent of the resort's visitors.

He made a runway on the sand spanning about 10 feet before taking the turtles from a pail and prodding them to find their way to the sea.

Low lighting

Club Paradise has been implementing its rear-and-release program for marine turtles for eight years, and has built the resort facilities following the contours of the island to preserve its fragile ecosystem.

"We keep artificial lighting low at night so the turtles don't get confused," Humphreys said.

Turtles tend to follow the light that they see, often mistaking the light from facilities for the moon and ending up being devoured by predators on the beach as soon as they are out, he explained.

Club personnel retrieve the hatchlings from the nesting sites to save them from predators and transfer them to a tank filled with seawater. There they are fed until they are strong enough to be released.

The chance of marine turtles making it to adulthood is only 1 in 1,000, but rearing them in a controlled environment for at least two weeks triples that chance of survival, Humphreys said.

Year of the Turtle

The United Nations has declared 2006 as the Year of the Turtle in an effort to save the gentle species, now classified as being on the brink of extinction after surviving the dinosaurs for over 150 million years.

For the first time, 25 countries in the Indian Ocean Southeast Asian region, including the Philippines, signed a memorandum of understanding dedicating 2006 to the protection of sea turtles, known locally as *pawikan*.

The Philippines is recognized internationally as an important nesting and conservation site for endangered marine turtles.

Of the seven known species of marine turtles in the world, five—Loggerhead, Leatherback, Olive Ridley, Hawksbill and Green—are found in the country.

"I've been around, and I've seen a lot of places that are irresponsible, but I am impressed by the conservation efforts in the Philippines," Humphreys said.

ROY AZARCON/CONTRIBUTOR

FEMALE marine turtles crawl out of their place of birth where they are expected to return to lay their own eggs to populate the next generation for another 30, 50 or 150 years.

Returning to the spot

According to Humphreys, it is important for marine turtles to walk on the sand before reaching the sea to allow the minerals in their body to register the magnetic field of the earth at that spot.

Female marine turtles that survive return to the exact same place where they were born to lay their own eggs.

It is hoped that the dozen or so babies released last week would make the return trip to this island and deliver the next generation of marine turtles, which will again follow the sun and propagate their kind for another 30, 50 or 150 years.

Foundation appeals to Mike Arroyo who had change of heart

From page A1

On Jan. 22 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Arroyo was criticized anew for climbing the ring to congratulate the Filipino boxing icon.

Last straw

That proved to be the last straw for the staunch Pacquiao supporter and sports patron, said people close to the First Gentleman.

Dizon and Philippine Heart Center director Dr. Ludgerio Torres, among other HFP founding members, expressed hope that Arroyo would reconsider his decision.

Time is running out for those on the PHC waiting list for free heart operations, Torres warned.

From 4,000 charity patients in 2002, the Heart Center backlog is "now down to more than 800 cases, about 40 percent of whom will die while waiting for the operation," according to the PHC head.

An open heart operation costs at least P100,000.

"Tens of millions of pesos will allow us to totally erase the backlog. But we don't have that kind of money. As the population grows, new cases are added to the waiting list. *Walang katapusan 'yan* (It's never-ending) and for the hospital an endless problem," Torres said.

First ladies to the rescue

Both former first ladies Amelita "Ming" Ramos and Dr. Loi Estrada had actively taken part in past HFP fund campaigns.

During her term as honorary chair of the "Pusong Nagmamahal" fund drive, Ramos raised close to P10 million from golf tournaments sponsored by Duty Free Philippines, Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) and the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor).

The events also got the backing of business giants Fil-Estate Land, International Container Terminal Services Inc. and Toyota Motor Phils. Corp., among others.

Estrada, now a senator, launched the HFP fund drive in Malacañang.

In 2000 alone, she managed to raise more than P7.6 million with donations from business tycoons Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco, Manuel Pangilinan and Lucio Tan.

Then Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Angelo Reyes (now natural resources secretary) and former Foreign Secretary Domingo Siazon also helped in the fund drive.

Dizon noted that during a Zambales surgical outreach program, "Dr. Loi sent additional money but the funds disappeared."

No. 1 killer

The HFP used to get about P10 million from its annual fund campaigns. "The funds have allowed the foundation to provide assistance to 7,000-plus indigent patients during the past 34 years," said Dizon.

"Lately, we've slowed down because money isn't coming. We're having difficulty raising funds. We're also getting less requests for aid. Why? Because we have been turning down the same requests due to financial constraints," he lamented.

Last week, the HFP gathered popular bands Orange and Lemons, Freestyle and Juan dela Cruz Band at the Folk Arts Theater in "Rock da Band," its Valentine's fund-raising concert.

Like the foundation, the Heart Center is also plagued by money problems. The state-run medical facility has been getting only P150 million in annual government subsidies.

"*Di tumataas, di bumababa* (The subsidy neither increased or decreased) during the past 10 years. Despite the fact that cardiovascular disease has been the country's No. 1 killer disease for 10 years now. The state's priorities are to fund common diseases like tuberculosis, pneumonia and diarrhea. To think that the PHC is the country's one and only heart center serving the entire 80 million population, unlike Taiwan where 11 heart centers support its 20 million population or Singapore which has three heart centers for its 2 million people," Torres pointed out.

A GIRL IS WAITING. Mary Grace Igadna, 5, is one of over 800 indigent patients on the waiting list of the Heart Center in need of open heart surgery. RUDY ESPERAS

NOW A HEALTHY 38-year-old, Robert Vargas was a beneficiary of the Heart Foundation of the Philippines when he was a blue baby at 6 years old (inset). He appeals to Mr. Mike Arroyo to resume helping in the fund drive. He himself is willing to donate something from his meager pay as a security guard to pay back for his free operation.

Imelda Marcos' project

It was the HFP that convinced then first lady Imelda Marcos to put up, in the early '70s, what was initially called Philippine Heart Center for Asia, established under Presidential Decree No. 673.

On Feb. 14, 1975, the PHC was formally opened by Marcos and her foreign guests led by the late Dr. Christiaan Barnard, the South African cardiac surgeon who made history eight years earlier by performing the world's first heart transplant.

Other world-renowned heart experts who graced the PHC inauguration included Doctors Donald Effler, Charles Bailey and Denton Cooley.

HFP founding chair Dr. Avenilo Aventura was the first PHC head while Dr. Esperanza Cabral (now health secretary) became the hospital's first woman director in 1986.

Blue baby

Like some HFP old-timers, R&B Tube Ice Plant security guard Robert Vargas also hopes Arroyo would change his mind.

Vargas, an ex-HFP aid beneficiary, was born with a defective heart.

At age six, Vargas, a "blue baby," was operated on by Torres and Aventura. In 1980, he underwent follow-up surgery.

Now 38 and feeling healthier than ever, Vargas has appealed to other former HFP referrals to support the organization's fund campaign.

He said he wouldn't mind "donating a few pesos from my small monthly pay [of P6,000] just to be able to help those in need."

Rheumatic heart

Torres said they would like other surviving Heart Center patients like Iluminada Asoy-Sanguyo, the very first beneficiary of the HFP program, and Edgar Robles, to help spread the word about the fund drive.

On Feb. 14, 1972, then 18-year-old Sanguyo (who had rheumatic heart disease) was operated on for mitral stenosis by a team of surgeons at the V. Luna General Hospital, also in Quezon City. Torres was part of the surgical team.

Torres recalled: "Both [then] President Ferdinand Marcos and the First Lady watched the televised operation. Right after the surgery, the President called and congratulated us. He said, OK you will have your Heart Center. Just to make sure, he sent Mrs. Marcos the following day to check if Sanguyo was really alive. She was so impressed when she saw that the patient could already walk."

Now in her early 50s and a mother of two, Sanguyo is based in Saudi Arabia with her diplomat-husband.

Hole in the heart

Robles, 38, is an OFW working in the United Arab Emirates. He underwent surgical correction of a "hole in the heart" when he was eight, according to HFP files.

"Robles, the eldest of four children of a financially handicapped couple, suffered from congenital heart disease. Had he not been operated on at a young age, he probably would now be a cardiac cripple," said the foundation.

Despite increasing operational costs, the PHC has promised to continue serving the poorest of the poor.

The East Avenue, Quezon City-based hospital averages 200 new cases a day in its outpatient department. Some 80 percent of them are charity cases.

For the inpatient section "it's reversed—80 private and 20 charity," Torres said.

Out of some 40,000 operations conducted by the hospital during the past 31 years, about 30 percent were charity cases.

"The ratio used to be 60-40, with 60 percent representing private patients and 40 percent charity. But lately, with costing for charity going up and our subsidy stuck at P150 million, it became 80-20, with indigents representing the 20 percent," Torres said.

He expressed hope that "figures for indigents would go back to 40 percent. That is why we make it a point to utilize income derived from private patients in charity cases."

Quality service

Current rates for PHC surgical procedures range from P46,000 for a coronary angiogram (with a three-day stay in a ward) to P579,450 for special complex congenitals (with 10-day confinement in a private room).

PHC private room packages are "affordable by those in the middle income bracket. In private hospitals like Asian [Hospital] and St. Luke's [Medical Center], a coronary bypass costs between P800,000 and P1 million," said Torres.

At the Heart Center, the same procedure costs from P343,350 to P518,580.

The hospital "has gained a reputation as one of the busiest congenital heart surgery centers in the region where patients receive quality service at reasonable prices," said the PHC website.

It has a high survival rate for open-heart surgery patients, too, Torres said. "For coronary bypass, it's 99 percent. It's 95-96 percent for congenital heart disease. For valve replacement, it's 97 percent."

The hospital, which has a well-trained and highly experienced medical staff, expects to save more lives with new heart-scanning technology, courtesy of a P450-million "part-loan, part-grant" from the Dutch government.

New equipment

On Feb. 14, the PHC inaugurated its nuclear medicine and cardiac catheterization laboratory and a CT scan which is capable of producing the most detailed images available of the heart's arteries without surgery.

The hospital is set to acquire, among other things, two coronary angiograms—touted as the "gold standard for viewing the arteries that nourish the heart"—and a magnetic resonance imaging machine or MRI.

The P150-million MRI not only reveals the layers of fat that envelop most hearts, radio signals emitted by oscillating atoms in heart cells are also converted by a computer into either still or moving 3-D images.

The PHC already has four echocardiograms (which cost around P15 million each) but they need to be updated from 2- to 3-dimensional.

Prevention is best

New technology notwithstanding, heart transplants are not likely to take place at the Heart Center in the coming years, Torres said.

"Aside from cultural-religious reasons, the procedure is too costly. With a price tag of P1 million per transplant, we can operate on five to seven charity patients. So why use your scarce resources on a single operation?" Torres said.

The PHC head dispelled the myth that many Filipinos with sick hearts die because they fail to undergo heart surgery or get a new heart.

Torres observed that "many seek medical advice when it's too late. *Kung di grabe, di pa papasok ng ospital para patingin sa doktor. Ugaling Pinoy* (If it's not life-threatening, they will not go to a hospital or consult a doctor. It's the Pinoy attitude)."

He added: "Prevention is still the best medicine."

Endangered baby turtles follow the sun to survive

From page A1

Humphreys led the release of the baby turtles on March 3, to the delight of the foreign guests who make up about 70 percent of the resort's visitors.

He made a runway on the sand spanning about 10 feet before taking the turtles from a pail and prodding them to find their way to the sea.

Low lighting

Club Paradise has been implementing its rear-and-release program for marine turtles for eight years, and has built the resort facilities following the contours of the island to preserve its fragile ecosystem.

"We keep artificial lighting low at night so the turtles don't get confused," Humphreys said.

Turtles tend to follow the light that they see, often mistaking the light from facilities for the moon and ending up being devoured by predators on the beach as soon as they are out, he explained.

Club personnel retrieve the hatchlings from the nesting sites to save them from predators and transfer them to a tank filled with seawater. There they are fed until they are strong enough to be released.

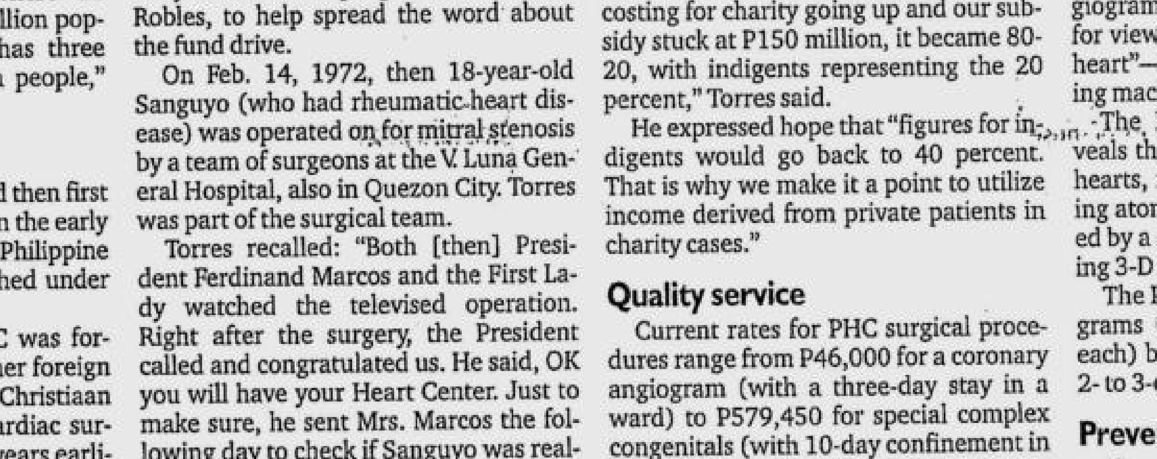
The chance of marine turtles making it to adulthood is only 1 in 1,000, but rearing them in a controlled environment for at least two weeks triples that chance of survival, Humphreys said.

Year of the Turtle

The United Nations has declared 2006 as the Year of the Turtle in an effort to save the gentle species, now classified as being on the brink of extinction after surviving the dinosaurs for over 150 million years.

For the first time, 25 countries in the Indian Ocean Southeast Asian region, including the Philippines, signed a memorandum of understanding dedicating 2006 to the protection of sea turtles, known locally as *pawikan*.

The Philippines is recognized internationally as an important nesting and conservation site for endangered marine turtles.



ROY AZARCON/CONTRIBUTOR

FEMALE marine turtles crawl out of their place of birth where they are expected to return to lay their own eggs to populate the next generation for another 30, 50 or 150 years.

Of the seven known species of marine turtles in the world, five—Loggerhead, Leatherback, Olive Ridley, Hawksbill and Green—are found in the country.

"I've been around, and I've seen a lot of places that are irresponsible, but I am impressed by the conservation efforts in the Philippines," Humphreys said.

Returning to the spot

According to Humphreys, it is important for marine turtles to walk on the sand before reaching the sea to allow the minerals in their body to register the magnetic field of the earth at that spot.

Female marine turtles that survive return to the exact same place where they were born to lay their own eggs.

It is hoped that the dozen or so babies released last week would make the return trip to this island and deliver the next generation of marine turtles, which will again follow the sun and propagate their kind for another 30, 50 or 150 years.

'Wowowee' reopens to mixed reviews

By Bayani San Diego and Jocelyn Uy

IN THE IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH OF THE Ultra tragedy on Feb. 4, a somber Willie Revillame tearfully said that if he ever went back on the air, he would dedicate a song to the 71 "dreamers" who perished in the stampede.

But when the "Wowowee" game show returned yesterday, Revillame was singing a different tune.

He was chanting and dancing with a bunch of ati-atihan performers, cheered on by a gallery of ABS-CBN worthies—Charo Santos-Concio, executive vice president and manager, Edgar Mortiz, creative consultant; Joanna Gomez, VP for TV operations; Marilou Almaden, business unit head; Jeffrey Remigio, AVP of ABS-CBN Global; Leng Raymundo, VP for acquisitions, and Anna Feliciano, choreographer.

Revillame, Concio and Almaden were among the individuals that the National Bureau of Investigation found liable for the Ultra tragedy. Anna Feliciano is the wife of Mel Feliciano, the show's assistant director recommended for prosecution by the NBI.

From all indications, it's business as usual at Studio 3 of ABS-CBN. The show must go on, as the old Hollywood adage would have it, for the network and its employees.

Overwhelming clamor

"The show is back on air because of the overwhelming clamor the network has received from televiewers both here and abroad," said Maloli K. Espinosa, vice president for government, corporate affairs and PR.

She said the network received "lots of calls, e-mails and letters requesting the show's return."

Survivor Neildrin Catubig was in tears, however, as he watched the return of "Wowowee" on television yesterday.

It was like a bad dream come to haunt him again, said Catubig, who was one of the many people trampled underfoot when the crowd became restive, pushing and shoving to enter the Philsports Arena in Pasig City where the game show was to have celebrated its first anniversary.

Insult to victims

"They should not have aired the program yet. It is a 100 percent insult to the victims and the survivors who are still grieving," he said.

The Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption (VACC) said it was "absolutely outrageous" for ABS-CBN to air the game show again so soon after the tragedy.

"ABS-CBN stomped on the memory of those killed in the tragedy," said VACC founding chair Dante Jimenez.

"How has its management and staff mustered the gall to continue the program that reminds everyone of the heaps of dead bodies and hundreds of injured people whose lives have changed after the tragedy?" he asked.

The VACC will seek the National Telecommunications Commission's intervention to stop the airing of "Wowowee," Jimenez said.

Espinosa rattled off the show's "improvements," including what she called a micro-financing component to the prizes, such as giving financial advice to the winners as well as tips on how to use their cash prizes wisely.

Where before the show was open to everyone, one has to be the best in his field or sector to join.

"If he is a tricycle driver, he has to be the best tricycle driver," she said.

To Espinosa, these are by way of "lessons learned" from the tragedy and "[putting] more meaning to our public service."

She said the network would continue to provide support and assistance to the injured and the victims through the 71 Dreams Foundation.

Hundreds of security personnel, including policemen, were deployed at the network's studios for the reopening of the show.

Espinosa also said new safety rules have been devised, such as separate queues for the elderly and for children, and standby ambulances and medical staff.

Japan gives P72M to control floods

JAPAN HAS STEPPED UP ITS AID TO LEYTE island, almost a month after the deadly Feb. 17 landslide that buried a village in Southern Leyte.

In addition to the $11 million and P27 million worth of assistance it gave to the landslide victims earlier, the Japanese government has announced that it is giving P72 million for the repair of the flood control system of Ormoc City in Leyte province.

Ormoc's flood control system was built by the government with foreign assistance following the November 1991 floods that killed some 5,000 in the city. Its main structures, however, were damaged by typhoon Gilas in 2003.

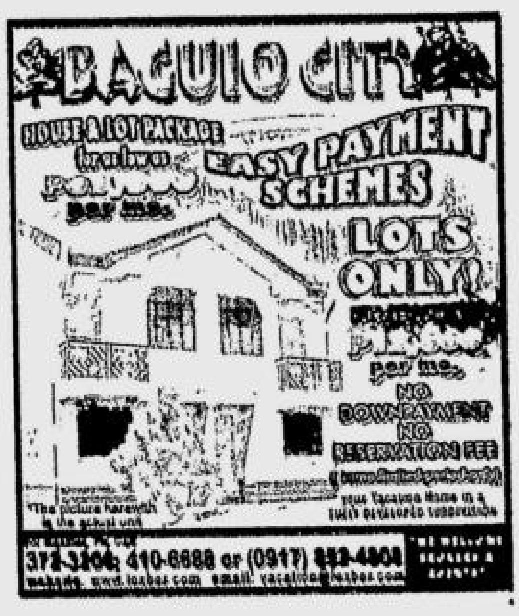
The latest package of Official Development Assistance was announced by Japanese Ambassador Ryuichiro Yamazaki on March 7.

The grant will cover 75 percent of the cost of repairing the Nadongholan Dike in the upper section of the Malbasag River, as well as the access roads for the Biliboy Slit Dam.

The dam was built through a Japanese grant in 1998, while the riverbank protection structures for the Malbasag River were funded by the Asian Development Bank shortly after the 1991 tragedy.

Until typhoon Gilas struck and weakened these structures, "they fully served their purpose in safeguarding Ormoc City from succeeding floods of equivalent or higher magnitudes," the Japanese Embassy noted in a statement.

The Department of Public Works and Highways is expected to complete the repairs in seven months, it said. *Volt Contreras*


BAGUIO CITY
HOUSE & LOT PACKAGE
per mo.
EASY PAYMENT SCHEMES
LOTS ONLY!
per mo.
NO DOWNPAYMENT
NO RESERVATION FEE
"The picture herewith is the actual unit"
Your Vacation Home in a fully developed subdivision
372-3204; 410-6888 or (0917) 882-4804
website: www.loobas.com email: vacation@loobas.com

SAMSUNG
World clock
Moscow
London
Option
Back

X700
- 1.3 Megapixel Camera with 4x Digital Zoom
- Video Recording & Messaging
- MP3 Player
- Bluetooth
- 26.7 MB User Memory / External Memory

imagine finally having a Samsung phone

With Samsung, we have every phone imaginable. From the fashionably compact but powerful phones, the stylish clamshell phones down to the sleek slide-up phones. Whatever your mood or personality we have just the perfect phone for you.

X660

- VGA Camera with Digital Zoom
- Video Recording & Messaging
- MMS, JAVA, WAP, GPRS
- Tri-Band
- 26.7 MB User Memory/External Memory

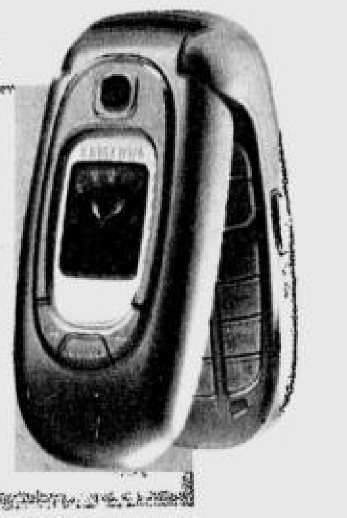
X620

- VGA Camera
- MP3 Player
- FM Radio
- Bluetooth
- Video Recording & Messaging

E350

- VGA Camera with Flash
- Tri-Band
- MP3 Player
- Video Recording & Messaging
- 40MB Shared memory

E360

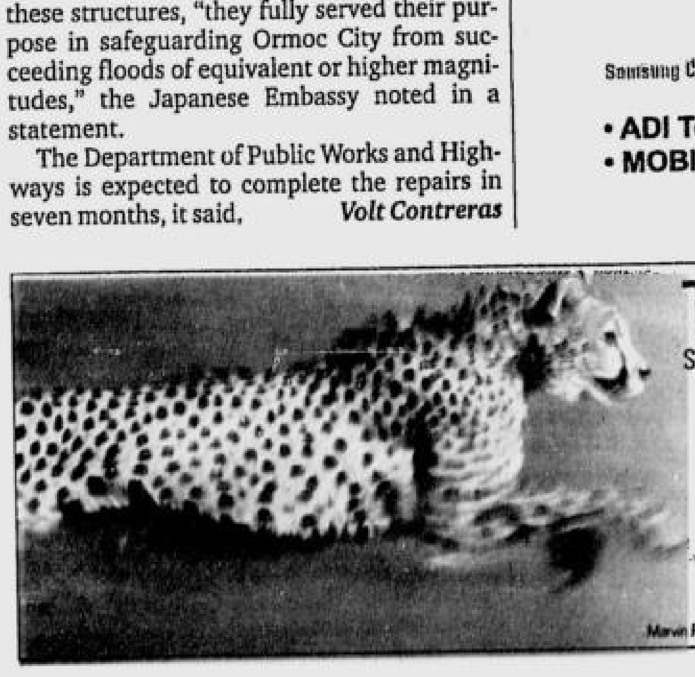


- VGA Camera with 5x Digital Zoom
- MP3 Player
- FM Radio
- Bluetooth
- Video Recording & Messaging

SAMSUNG

Samsung Customer Contact Center: TOLL FREE 1-800-10SAMSUNG for PLDT or 1-800-3SAMSUNG for Digitel. www.samsung.ph

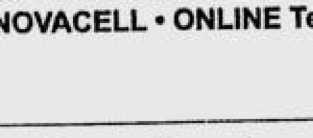
• ADI Telecom • BSD International • GLOBOTEL MOBILE LINKS • HELLO TELECOM • MEGACELLULAR • MEMOEXPRESS • MOBILE • NOVACELL • ONLINE Telecom • SEMICON • TID/Wellcom



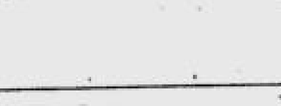
Tough, sleek and fast.

Sturdy, space-efficient, super-speed scanners you can afford.

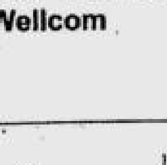
Canon
Delighting You Always



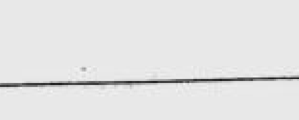
CANOSCAN LIDE 25
- 1200 X 2400 dpi
- 3 EZ buttons (Scan, Copy, File, Email)
- Multiphoto Scan



CANOSCAN 3000EX
- 1200 X 2400 dpi
- 3 EZ buttons (Scan, Copy, File, Email)
- Advanced Z lid (up to 5cm)



LIDE 500F
- 2400 X 4800 dpi
- 4 EZ buttons (Scan, Copy, PDF, Email)
- Film Scanning



CANOSCAN LIDE 60
- 1200 X 2400 dpi
- Upright Scanning
- 6 Sec Preview Speed

CANOSCAN 8950F
- 4800 X 9600 dpi
- 6-Line CCD Scanning
- Canon's new Super Toxic Lens
- Film Scanning

CANON MARKETING (PHILIPPINES), INC.
Marvin Plaza Bldg., 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City Tel No (632) 884 9000 • Fax (632) 810 9707 Website www.canon.com.ph Email: info@canon.com.ph

In SE Asia, child sex trade goes on unabated

SINGAPORE – SOUTHEAST ASIA is one of the world's top destinations for people seeking sex with children, and signs of the trade are often evident.

Hundreds of thousands of girls and boys are believed to be working in the sex trade in the Philippines, Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam and other countries in an underground industry that inflicts untold emotional and physical harm on young lives.

In one late-night scene at a Cambodian bar, half a dozen children played with a puppy and watched cartoons on television as Western men strolled outside. In Thailand, despite tougher law enforcement, foreigners are sometimes seen walking with young girls dressed in high heels and halter tops.

"Many of these countries do have certain laws in place. The issue is enforcement," said Ruben Rodriguez of the US-based International Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Police and courts struggle with a backlog of drug, murder and other cases. Child sex prosecutions are relatively rare, and tend to snare individual offenders rather than the trafficking networks that supply them. Many pedophiles pay off authorities or the families of victims, who are usually poor and eager to avoid the shame of a public trial.

On March 3 in Vietnam, a court sentenced former British rocker Gary Glitter to three years in jail for molesting two girls, and his lawyer said he could be paroled sooner. The judge said the $2,000 that Glitter paid to each girl's family contributed to the lighter sentence from a possible maximum of seven years.

Such an outcome could reinforce a perception of lax laws in Southeast Asia and attract foreign child molesters who face tougher penalties at home, experts said. In some cases settled out of court, they said, the destitute family of a young victim takes hush money even if the distraught child doesn't want the bribe.

"There are more and more tourists coming, more and more danger for the children," said Christian Guth, a former French police officer who has assisted Cambodian authorities in investigating the child sex trade.

30 years in jail

The United States, Britain and Australia are among countries with laws allowing the prosecution of their citizens who sexually abuse children overseas. A US law from 2003 mandates a sentence of up to 30 years for anyone, at home or abroad, who has sex with a minor, defined as someone under the age of 18.

But crafting legal cases based on evidence from another continent entails long delays, and sometimes requires victims to travel a long distance to testify. Some transient children are difficult to locate, especially for a small team of investigators from another country.

Most abusers Asian

Most perpetrators of child sex crimes in Asia are Asian. This month, Singapore became one of the first Asian countries to say it would amend its law to prosecute its citizens who have sex with minors overseas. The wealthy enclave is a short ferry ride from the Indonesian resort island of Batam, where sex tourism flourishes.

The Philippines has a law that protects children against all forms of abuse, but it needs to be amended to cover the pervasive problem of child pornography on the Internet, said Anjanette Saguisag, a child protection officer at the Unicef office in Manila.

"With the advances in technology, the law hasn't been able to cope with the new ways of committing the crime," she said.

Few other countries in the region have specific legislation that targets child pornography offenses on computers.

Saguisag said some sex offenders try to attract children through online chat rooms, sometimes pretending to be children themselves. Philippine activists are pushing lawmakers to upgrade the law, but the lobbying is expected to take a long time.

Laws unclear

Legal experts and social workers said some laws don't clearly define child sex tourism as a crime, and that the ambiguity of the wording can weaken their impact. Cambodia, for example, prosecutes some child molesters under a law that bans "debauchery."

"They don't have a specific statute that would focus on having sex with children under a certain age," said Katharine Bostick, a former US federal prosecutor based in Singapore with Microsoft Corp. The company helps train law enforcement officials and social workers in the region in how to track down pedophiles operating on the Internet.

Changing perceptions as well as laws is part of the battle, Bostick said. An Indian social worker told her about members of an Indian group who thought an incestuous relationship between a father and a daughter was acceptable, even though the group was caring for young victims of sexual abuse.

"There's a long way to go in terms of understanding that this is a problem," Bostick said. *AP*

Sprinklers on ships mulled

MARITIME INDUSTRY regulators plan to require inter-island passenger vessels to install automated firefighting equipment to help fight fires at sea like the one that struck the SuperFerry 12 last week.

Maritime Industry Authority administrator Vicente Suazo Jr. said he will propose making sprinkler systems a requirement on domestic passenger liners, many of which are equipped only with manual water pumps and fire extinguishers.

Mandatory

"I am thinking of making automatic sprinklers mandatory for these vessels," Suazo said in a phone interview.

Suazo said what happened on the SuperFerry 12 – where the blaze was placed under control within 30 minutes and completely put out three hours later with the help of automatic sprinklers – convinced him of the need for making such equipment a requirement.

Safe

A statement issued by Aboitiz Transport System, owner of the SuperFerry 12, said all 639 passengers and 145 crew members were "safe and secure" and that an evacuation of the ship was not necessary.

The ship proceeded to Cebu as planned and arrived in port Thursday night.

"Initial reports state the fire started in the stateroom and the ship's crew immediately went into fire-fighting mode," the company statement said.

Daxim L. Lucas

Far Eastern University (FEU)
High School Batch '81
(Girls & Boys)
25th Year Reunion
on May 20, 2006!!!
Deadline for Registration: April 20, '06
Details: Cecile 455-3917 (1-8 PM)
or email to morayta81@yahoo.com

MARVELOUS TRIPS

AIRFARE

GUAM	$ 270	HONGKONG	$ 75
JAPAN	$ 415	SINGAPORE	$ 99
LAX VIA MH	$ 505	K. LUMPUR	$ 80
LAX/SFO	$ 615	BANGKOK	$165

TOUR PACKAGES

CANTON - HONGKONG - SHENZHEN	$128
CANTON - HKG - SHENZHEN W/ DISNEY	$178
HONGKONG + DISNEY DAY TOUR	$188
KUALA + GENTING HIGHLANDS	$228
SINGAPORE + MALAYSIA + INDONESIA	$320
BANGKOK + PATTAYA + KUALA LUMPUR	$358

KOTA KINABALU PKG.	$148	2N SINGAPORE	$135
BKK BLOCKINGS	$196	3D/2N K. LUMPUR	$168
HONGKONG+BEIJING	$289	BALI + K. LUMPUR	$328

COMPANY OUTINGS, GROUP TOURS & SCHOOL TRIPS AVAILABLE
WE ACCEPT MAJOR CREDIT CARDS
ROYALWINGS TRAVEL & TOURS
2/F Northridge Plaza Annex A, 12 Congressional Ave., Q.C.
• Tel. Nos.: 455-1077 • 927-3674 • Telefax: 455-1173
Cell. No.: 0916-6140577 • E-mail: royalwings_travel@yahoo.com
OPEN ON SUNDAYS
MACRIEL TRAVEL & TOURS
Rm. 301 Trinity Bldg., 636 T.M. Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila
Tels.: 521-8828 - 32 • Cell.No.: (0920) 421-8877 • (0916) 617-3728 • (0922) 593-9520 • E-mail: luriel12@yahoo.com

SKYNET TRAVEL
CORPORATION
TATA PTAA PIATA PHILTOA PTTC
G/F & 2/F TSE AND SONS BLDG. 1743 A. MABINI ST. MALATE
Tel. Nos. 400-0509 to 10 • 521-7596 to 98
Fax No.: 526-6364 • 526-6682 • Mobile No.: (0921) 445-1778
Email: stc@skynettravelcorp.com or skynettravel@amadeusph.com
Opens Mon-Fri 9am - 6pm Sat 9am - 1:30pm
BRANCH OFFICE: ST.FRANCIS SQUARE UNIT-K, BASEMENT 1, JULIA VARGAS AVE., COR.BANK DRIVE, ORTIGAS CENTER, MANDALUYONG CITY (BACK OF SM MEGAMALL)
Tel # 633-2399, 633-9976, 635-6211
Telefax# 631-8354 / Email:skynettravel-ort@amadeusph.com
OPENS DAILY FROM 10AM - 9PM NAITAS
BOOKING OFFICES: Baguio: (074) 446-9834
Cainta: 284-2097 • Cavite: (046) 417-2707 • Iloilo: (033) 5084151
Legaspi: (052)480-5293 • Marikina: 943-4201 • Ozamis: (088) 5211555
Tacloban: (053) 325-8254 • Tuguegarao: (078) 8460832

HOLYWEEK BLOCKINGS
12-15 APR

4D/3N	SINGAPORE OXFORD	285	4D/3N	BANGKOK FIRST HOUSE	299
4D/3N	HONGKONG FREE & EASY	389	4D/3N	HONGKONG w/ DISNEYLAND TOUR	449

Hongkong Disneyland Packages

2N HKG COMPULSARY w/Disneyland Daytour	3D/2N	179
2N HKG/1N SZX w/ Disneyland Daytour	4D/3N	189
1N HKG+2N SHENZHEN w/ Disneyland Daytour	4D/3N	199
2N HONGKONG+Disneyland Daytour	3D/2N	213
1N HKG+1N DISNEYLAND	3D/2N	255

FOR AS LOW AS

$99	4D/3N	3N Shenzhen
$109	3D/2N	1N Hongkong+1N Shenzhen
$189	4D/3N	3N Shanghai
$359	8D/7N	1N Shenzhen/2N Shanghai/3N Beijing /1N Zhuhai

INTERNATIONAL PACKAGES

Hongkong Compulsary	3D/2N	119	Taipei	3D/2N	335
Hongkong Free and Easy	3D/2N	153	Singapore + Malaysia Overland	6D/5N	335
2N Hongkong/1N Shenzhen w/ Ocean park	4D/3N	165	Kuala+Hongkong	5D/4N	343
Hongkong/Shenzhen/Macau	4D/3N	195	Singapore + Hongkong	5D/4N	349
Singapore Package	3D/2N	195	Hongkong / Shenzhen / Beijing w/ Shanghai Daytour	6D/5N	355
1N Hkg+3N Szx w/ Windows of the World	4D/3N	199	Singapore + Malaysia + Indonesia + Brunei	5D/4N	399
Kuala Lumpur	3D/2N	205	Beijing	4D/3N	478
Bangkok	4D/3N	225	Vietnam+Cambodia	6D/5N	745
Singapore + Malaysia + Indonesia	4D/3N	253	Korea	5D/4N	760
Kuala+Genting Highlands	4D/3N	269	Incredible India	6D/5N	945
Brunei	3D/2N	295	US West Coast Tour	6D/5N	988
Bangkok + Hongkong	5D/4N	305	Holyland Tour+Jordan	9D/8N	1598
3N Bangkok 1N Brunei	5D/4N	325	Scandinavia+Russia	14 DAYS	2888

DOMESTIC PACKAGES

BORACAY	3D/2N	P4,400
CEBU	3D/2N	P 4,600
BOHOL	3D/2N	P 7,700

WE ALSO OFFER OTHER INT. DESTINATIONS, LCL TOUR PKGS.
PASSPORT, DOCUMENTATION & VISA ASSISTANCE
Rates Are Subject To Change W/o Prior Notice. All rates are quoted in US dollars unless otherwise indicated.

BEST OF EUROPE
SEMANA SANTA
Procession in Sevilla !
Easter in Fatima
Apr.7 w/ Fr. Nolan Que
Medugorje + Holyland + Mediterranean Cruise June 10
HOLYLAND + JORDAN & EGYPT May 21/May 31
SHANGHAI & Beijing Apr 17
AUSTRALIA May 15 Sydney, Brisbane + Goldcoast
LADY OF GUADALUPE, MEXICO + SOUTH AMERICA June 16 (Apply U.S. visa)
•EXOTIC INDIA & MALAYSIA $ 888 only
• MIRACLE SITES OF EUROPE + HOLYLAND May 16
Paris, Rome, Madrid, Monte Carlo, Venice, etc.
Apr. 13-15 BANAUE ILOCOS or BATANES
The BEST CRUISE MEDITTERANEAN June 12 $ 1,904 only
US LAND TOURS
9 days West Coast $ 719
8 days East Coast $ 615
8 days East Coast & Canada $ 605
MARIAN PILGRIMAGE May 21
Fatima, Lourdes, Madrid, Rome, Barcelona etc.
EXPERT VISA ASSISTANCE
LOWEST PLANE TICKETS
Adams EXPRESS TRAVEL
Serving Lifetime Memories
1015 M.H. Del Pilar cor. T.M. Kalaw, Ermita, Manila • Tels: 522-3876 / 521-1698 / 1651 / 1638
Fax: 521-2255 • Email: adamstvl@pacific.net.ph
PTAA

KING JAMES
AUCTION CALENDAR
WAREHOUSE AUCTION TODAY
AUCTION TODAY MARCH 12, 2006 10:30 AM
LOCATION: 333 OLD NATIONAL HIGHWAY, STO.CRISTO, PULILAN, BULACAN
ITEMS: OFFICE FURNITURES & EQUIPMENT OF UNITED OVERSEAS BANK (9 BRANCHES)
REFUNDABLE / CONSUMABLE DEPOSIT OF P5,000
SCRAP METAL / WOOD AUCTION
AUCTION DATE MARCH 16, 2006 10:30 AM
REGISTRATION & VIEWING DATES: MARCH 14-15, 2006
LOCATION: GEN. LUIS COR., P. JACINTO ST., BAGBAGUIN, CALOOCAN CITY (MALINTA EXIT)
(500 TONS MORE OR LESS) SCRAP METAL & WOOD CONSISTING OF 2 BOILERS, 6 BANKER FUEL TANK, KNITTING MACHINES, ASSORTED STAINLESS MIXING TANKS & BOWLS, SEAMLESS PIPES, STEAMER, STAINLESS SCRAP METAL, ASSORTED SCRAP METAL AND MANY MORE.....
REFUNDABLE / CONSUMABLE DEPOSIT OF P10,000
NEGOTIATED SALE
SCRAP METAL FOR NEGO
STRICTLY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY!
(LAGUNA)
35,000 SQM. OF STEEL STRUCTURAL / FRAMES CONSISTING OF I-BEAMS, ANGULARS, G.I. SHEETS, WOOD, WATER TANKS, ELECTRICAL WIRES, ETC
WE BUY FACTORIES & MANUFACTURING PLANT
FOR VIEWING SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION CALL FOR INFO
721-3233, 723-3277, 299-8333, 299-8318, (0928)833-3000
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.kingjamesauction.com
OR EMAIL US AT: kingjamesauction@yahoo.com

Do People Talk Behind Your Back?
You probably have bad breath.
THERABREATH KIT SYSTEM™ is the solution
It's sure to eliminate chronic bad breath condition within 7 days treatment or your money back if no satisfactory results
Gain confidence.
Improve your social life.
Free use of Halimeter for monitoring bad breath condition.
Free delivery within Metro Manila.
Tel No. 890-8380 ; 895-5532
897-2466 ; 895-6775
Cel# 0917-796-5859
0920-226-7717

MGC
GOLD CUP

Notice is hereby given that **RMJR GRAINS CENTER** of 93 Tangos, Baliuag Bulacan is the owner of the above depicted **MGC GRAINS & DEVICE IN COLOR** and **MGC GOLD CUP & DEVICE** trademarks.

RMJR GRAINS CENTER has built and nurtured a strong reputation and goodwill in its **MGC GRAINS & DEVICE** and **MGC GOLD CUP & DEVICE** trademarks through long and extensive use, advertising, promotion, distribution and sales of rice products bearing said trademarks. Whenever consumers see the **MGC GRAINS & DEVICE** and **MGC GOLD CUP & DEVICE** trademarks, they immediately associate them with **RMJR GRAINS CENTER** relying on the high quality of its goods bearing the trademarks.

It has come to the attention of **RMJR GRAINS CENTER** that unscrupulous parties have been producing, distributing and selling rice products bearing the **MGC GRAINS & DEVICE** and **MGC GOLD CUP & DEVICE** trademarks without its authority and in violation of Philippine intellectual property laws. **TAKE NOTICE** that **RMJR GRAINS CENTER** will institute vigorous proceedings against any party involved in any unauthorized use of its **MGC GRAINS & DEVICE** and **MGC GOLD CUP & DEVICE** trademarks in connection with rice products.

The public is advised to buy rice products bearing the trademarks **MGC GRAINS & DEVICE** and **MGC GOLD CUP** only from **RMJR GRAINS CENTER** and its authorized outlets to ensure authenticity and quality of the rice products purchased.

Any person having any information concerning the unauthorized use of the above marks are advised to notify the counsel for **RMJR GRAINS CENTER.**

March 12, 2006
SYCIP SALAZAR HERNANDEZ & GATMAITAN
Counsel for RMJR GRAINS CENTER
SSHG Law Centre, 105 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
Telephone Nos. 817-9811 to 20; 817-2001 to 09 / Fax Nos. 817-3896; 817-3567
E-mail address: sycip law@globenet.com.ph; sshg@sycip law.com

Travel Now to
BORACAY for only
P899*
Tuwa't saya ang hatid ng Negros Navigation's Boracay FUNSHIP
(Boracay trip, every Wed and Fri)
Tels. 2455588 2435951 2440408
www.negrosnavigation.ph
*Exclusive of Vat, Fuel Surcharge, Terminal Fees

SPEECHPOWER
MARCH TWO-WEEK INTENSIVE PROGRAM
MARCH 20-31
Free Sample Lessons
March 14 - Tue SP-Cubao
March 15 - Wed SP-España
March 16 - Thu SP-Taft
March 17 - Fri SP-Buendia
Time: 3-5 PM; 6-8 PM
Classes begin on March 20, 2006.

Cubao	España	Taft	Buendia
9110832	7357256	5213601	8332836
9110833	7357262	5255310	8332921

www.speechpower.ph

LTS No. 13510
The Fastest Selling,
Best Value-For-Money Condo in the Country!

30 SQM Semi-Finished Units for as low as P640,800
"Total Cost, No Extra Fees."
Pictures shown are of furnished model unit. Actual turnover units are bare and semifinished
SPAZIO BERNARDO
The Art of Quality Living
Champaca Street, Mindanao Avenue, Quezon City
Just 6 Minutes from the MRT SM North terminal.
From Makati take EDSA upon reaching SM City North turn right then left to Mindanao Ave. pass Congressional-Tandang Sora Ave. turn right at Champaca St. (across HBC SPLASH)
PHINMA PROPERTY HOLDINGS CORP.
City Living Made Easy
812-PPHC (7742)
0917-812-PPHC (7742)
0922-812-PPHC (7742)
www.spaziobernardo.com
Call our Lead Marketing Agents:
Boomland Realty: 939-7338
Granwood Realty: 929-8584

Kennedy Review Center, Inc.
School of Practical Nursing
KRC
To see you smile... To hear you say yes... To take you there...
www.kennedyreviewcenterph.com
TAKE THE FASTEST & EASIEST WAY TO A NURSING CAREER
DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!!!
Be a licensed nurse in the US!
Open to all high school or college graduates...
No Local Board * No CGFNS Exam
EASY * FAST * AFFORDABLE
We offer:
√ 1-yr Practical Nursing Course (US-adapted)
√ NCLEX-PN Review (for Practical nurses, RNs, under board nurses).
√ Direct Job Referral.
√ Full tuition reimbursement upon employment in the US.

WE HAVE 98% PASSING RATE IN NCLEX-PN
Call us for your schedule of FREE ORIENTATION.
KENNEDY REVIEW CENTER AND TRAINING INSTITUTE
Suite 505, Parc House II, Guadalupe Nuevo, Makati City
TEL. NOS. 882-1600 / 882-2145 EMAIL: info@kennedyreviewcenterph.com

Imelda to be called as witness in power plant case

By Nelson F. Flores

GOVERNMENT PROSECUTORS will ask former first lady Imelda Marcos to testify against Herminio Disini, a golfing buddy and business associate of her late husband, the dictator Ferdinand Marcos, in connection with a graft case involving the mothballed $2.3-billion Bataan Nuclear Power Plant in which both men allegedly made millions in kickbacks.

Raymundo Julio-Olaguer, lead prosecutor in the two graft cases against Disini, said Mrs. Marcos will be asked to confirm her kinship with Disini's wife, Paciencia Escolin.

"We will call Mrs. Marcos to the witness stand to establish that she and Disini's wife and the Marcoses' family doctor, Paciencia Escolin, were first cousins. This is in relationship to the allegation in the information that the accused took advantage of his close relationship with President Marcos," Olaguer said.

21 names submitted

The Marcos widow's name was on a list of 21 witnesses submitted by the prosecution to the Sandiganbayan First Division in their pre-trial brief dated Feb. 20.

Disini has been charged with graft and corruption of public officials for allegedly paying kickbacks in the millions of dollars to Marcos and for receiving hefty "rewards" for brokering the contract for the planning and construction of the power plant for Burns and Roe, a US engineering and construction company, and Westinghouse Electric Corp.

$2.3-B total cost

Construction of the plant started in 1975 and it was finished in 1984, but the cost had gone up from the original $600 million to $2.3 billion as a result of the alleged kickbacks and overpricing of other components of the project.

Despite assurances from the contractors, the Aquino administration refused to operate the nuclear plant after a study recorded over 4,000 "defects."

Lucrative contracts

Government prosecutors claimed Burns and Roe gave Disini $1 million for his efforts while Westinghouse allegedly shelled out $17 million.

In addition, they said that two companies, the Energy Corporation and Engineering and Construction Company of Asia, supposedly owned by Disini and Marcos, received lucrative sub-contracts for "mechanical and electrical construction" in the nuclear plant project.

Disini has posted P54,000 bail bond for his temporary liberty.

PROTECT YOUR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENTS AGAINST VOLTAGE FLUCTUATIONS AND SURGES!

MITSUI™ TRUE AND SAFE AUTOMATIC VOLTAGE REGULATORS

- TRUE CAPACITY RATING
- SAVE 50% IN COST COMPARED TO OTHER BRANDS FOR THE SAME APPLICATION
- WIDE INPUT VOLTAGE RANGE AND, FAST RESPONSE TO VOLTAGE FLUCTUATION
- DESIGNED BASED ON INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION AND PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARD ON SAFETY

YOUR SAFETY IS OUR MISSION.

AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING COMPUTER AND ELECTRICAL SHOPS NATIONWIDE
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 735-9257/734-2691

2000 plane crash suit to be heard in US

By Judy Quiros
PDI Mindanao Bureau

DAVAO CITY—THE TRIAL OF A class suit against an affiliate of the US aircraft company Boeing is expected to begin "soon" in Chicago, according to two American lawyers pursuing the case in behalf of the families of 131 people killed in the Philippines' worst air disaster.

Donald Nolan, lead counsel of the victims' families, told reporters yesterday he and his associates would prove to the court that the Boeing 737-200 that crashed on Samal island with 131 passengers and crew aboard on April 19, 2000, was defective. The plane had been leased to Air Philippines by the Illinois-based AAR Airline and Engines Corp.

"The company's duty is to make sure that any aircraft they lease is in good condition to ensure the safety of passengers," Nolan said.

Cook county court

His colleague, Manuel Ribbeck, added: "We will be trying to prove the negligence of the defendant when the trial begins."

The case has been filed in the Cook Country Circuit Court in Chicago, which held a preliminary hearing last Dec. 12, the lawyers said.

Nolan and Ribbeck were in Davao to discuss the status of the case with some of the relatives of the crash victims.

Flight 541 had come from Manila and was trying to land at the old Davao City airport when it crashed on Samal island, just off the city in the Davao Gulf. All 131 people aboard were killed.

Gov's kin were victims

North Cotabato Gov. Emmanuel Piñol, who has been in the forefront of the campaign to sue AAR, said they were also trying to recover missing pages of the logbook of Flight 541. He said the missing pages might have contained maintenance records for the aircraft.

Piñol's sister-in-law and his two nieces died in the crash.

Ribbeck said one issue that should also be settled is the compensation that AAR should pay the families of the victims.

Equal compensation

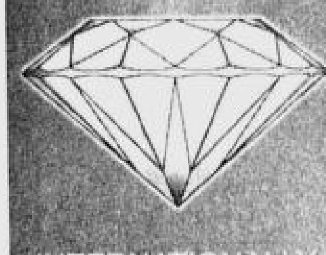
"The value of payment to Filipino victims should be equal to victims from other countries," he said.

Piñol said they were told that AAR had offered to pay $400,000 for each of the foreign victims in a previous crash abroad but were offering only $25,000 for the Filipinos this time.

Nibor Diamond Buying Office of the Philippines

NIBOR

FREE APPRAISAL



INTERNATIONALLY EXPERIENCED GEMOLOGISTS

40 YEARS IN BUSINESS

Highest Price and Instant Cash for old and modern cut Diamond from 2 carats up to 30 carats.

Pawnshop owners and agents are welcome.

By Appointment Only:
Mobile: (0917) 840-1573
Monday - Sunday 10am - 5pm

Central Jewelry at the Jewellery,
Greenhills Shopping Center,
San Juan, Metro Manila

Activists seek end to ritual dog-killing in Benguet

By Jerome Aning

ACTIVISTS FROM THE PEOPLE FOR THE Ethical Treatment of Animals (Peta) want the provincial government of Benguet to scrap a law that allows indigenous Cordillera communities to butcher dogs for their meat and skin.

To put pressure on top Benguet officials, Peta has launched a letter campaign urging animal lovers around the world to express their disgust at the practice through e-mails to Benguet Gov. Borromeo Melchor.

"Please help us save countless dogs from agonizing, cruel deaths by sending [him] a quick note. Please remind the governor that tradition is no excuse for cruelty to animals," Peta said in an "action-alert" spread through cyberspace by its organizers.

On Nov. 7 last year, the 10-man provincial board passed a resolution that would exempt indigenous people from national laws prohibiting the sale and consumption of dog flesh.

Peta wanted Melchor to veto the resolution.

The board's action apparently was in reaction to police raids on markets and restaurants serving dog flesh and cited the indigenous population's right to engage in the ritual use of dogs.

"Tell the governor that, with all due respect to other cultures' customs, this merciless practice has no place in the civilized world in 2006 and that, if it goes on unabated, it will severely compromise the image of the Philippines," Peta said.

Peta's campaign was expected to trigger another flood of angry letters from around the world to the provincial capitol.

In passing the resolution, the board's members cited Section 6(1) of Republic Act No. 8485, or the Animal Welfare Act, which allows exemptions to the killing of dogs "when it is done as part of the religious rituals of an established religion or sect or a ritual required by tribal or ethnic customs of indigenous cultural communities."

We Buy Diamonds! Cash Paid Instantly

Accepts diamonds 2 carats and up preferably round, emerald or old miner's (Antigo) cut.

Guaranteed to give you the HIGHEST appraisal for your diamonds!

Only at

JOAILLIER
Fine Jewelry

Ground Floor, Dusit Hotel Nikko,
Ayala Center, Makati City
Mondays to Saturdays 10:00 am to 7:00 pm

All transactions strictly confidential!

Tel. Nos.: 817-8855 • 815-3191 • 0926-7093812

www.dls-csb.edu.ph

Foreign Service Officers' Examination Review Program

April 18 to May 18, 2006
Class hours: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Program fee: Php 8,000.00
Registration is open until April 3, 2006 only!

Enroll Now

De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde offers a review program that covers the following subjects:

Philippine Foreign Policy, International Law, Treaties and International Organizations, Consular and Diplomatic Practices, International Economics and Trade: Politics and Governance, World and Asian History, Environmental Diplomacy, Special Concerns and Issues in International Politics and Diplomacy.

Passing the FSO Exam is the first step towards becoming a full-fledged career diplomat.

Consular and Diplomatic Affairs Department
School of Multidisciplinary Studies
De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde
2544 Taft Avenue, Manila, Philippines 1004

Tel. Nos.: 526-7441 to 47 loc. 202
Email: sms@dls-csb.edu.ph
loricar@dls-csb.edu.ph
tibara@dls-csb.edu.ph

De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde
2544 Taft Avenue, Manila, Philippines 1004

REACH FOR YOUR UK DREAM!

Attend our seminars on UK Immigration Law on April 6, 7 & 8, 2006 at Megatrade Conference Center, Function Rm. B, 5th Level SM Megamall in Mandaluyong City, at 10am - 1:30pm & 2:30pm - 6pm. Entrance fees are: P1,250 for the basic seminar and P2,000 for the seminar with private consultation.

MS. NICKI ADESEMOWO, a highly experienced and reputable solicitor will provide legal information and answer all your questions on UK Immigration and Nationality Law. She is the senior partner at ADESEMOWO & CO. SOLICITORS, based in London, United Kingdom and has had extensive experience on UK Immigration and Nationality Law over the past 13 years. She has assisted many Filipino migrants now enjoying life in UK.

ADESEMOWO & CO SOLICITORS
www.adelaw.com

(Topics to be covered: *All types of applications to enter the UK * Settlement applications to join spouse/ parents/ relatives in the UK *Applications for work permits and Highly Skilled Migrant Permit * Student visa applications * Appeals against refusal of all types of applications)

WE ARE NOT A RECRUITMENT AGENCY

Those interested may visit or call:

ON-Q

Unit 610 6th Flr. Cityland Condominium 10,
Tower 1 H.V. Dela Costa St.,Salcedo Village. Makati City
Tels. 810-4676 / 823-6928 Mobile: 0917-7581714
E-mail: on_cue_prod@yahoo.com

Cut this portion and fax to 823-6928.

Yes, I am interested. Please book me on __________
(April 6, 7 or 8, 2006)
Name: __________
Address: __________
__________ Tel.: __________

The Skills You Need for the Future You Want

STUDY IN AUSTRALIA HOLMESGLEN INSTITUTE OF TAFE

Rapid economic growth in Australia has led to severe skill shortages...

Holmesglen Institute, **MELBOURNE**, can qualify you across a wide range of trade, technical and professional programs including: **Accounting, Baking, Cookery, Patisserie, Computing, Engineering, Electronics, Hairdressing, Nursing, Interpreting, Welfare and much more...**

THE BEST PATHWAY TO UNIVERSITY & PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Holmesglen Institute is a Government institution offering small classes with personalized attention for all international students, across three modern, dynamic campuses in the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne.

- Degrees
- University Transfer Programs
- Graduate Certificates (6 months)
- English Language Programs
- Melbourne Foundation Year
- Certificate and Diplomas

To make an appointment for your FREE interview, please contact:
IDP Education Australia
2F Pioneer House Makati
108 Paseo de Roxas
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. No: 02 816 0755 (109/110)
Telefax: 02 815 9875
e-mail: info@manila.idp.com

Thursday, 16 March 2006
10AM - 6PM
Venue: IDP Education Australia Office

CRICOS Provider Code 000[illegible]G

CONTINENTAL SALES, INC.
The Best Home Appliance Distributor Nationwide
Awarded by National Product Quality Excellence Award

Markes OF CANADA
Haier
OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF THE BEIJING 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES
Beijing 2008
Midea
JAPANESE TECHNOLOGY
2005 NATIONAL PRODUCT QUALITY EXCELLENCE AWARDS
CONTINENTAL SALES, INC.
SEAL OF PRODUCT QUALITY
NATIONAL PRODUCT QUALITY EXCELLENCE AWARDS

#28 Quirino Highway, Balintawak, Quezon City 1106
Nationwide Service Hotline: (02)363-7193

www.[illegible]group.com

Senga: Military council will never happen

By Dona Pazzibugan

"THAT WILL NEVER HAPPEN."

Coolly but firmly, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga said he would never agree to a plan hatched by allegedly rebellious senior officers to install a "military caretaker government" if they succeed in busting President Macapagal-Arroyo through a withdrawal of support.

The INQUIRER, quoting insiders, reported that the plan last Feb. 24 was for military elements led by Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim to withdraw support from Ms Arroyo, and then for a military caretaker group to take over and force the immediate holding of elections.

According to the report, Senga was part of the plan as he was supposed to head the caretaker government, which the rebels refused to call a junta.

Senga said he had not heard of a plan about a caretaker government until the INQUIRER sought his comments Friday night.

Never heard

"I have not heard of that. It's the first time I've heard that," he said in a phone interview. "I have not talked to anybody. I'm not part of anything. I'm just doing my job," he went on.

Senga said he would never agree to lead such extraconstitutional setup, knowing his own limitations.

"I'm not capable of running government. Even if it's for a day, two days, three months, that's all the same. And who am I to even entertain such an idea?" he said.

Asked if he would be tempted by such an offer, he promptly replied, "That will never happen."

Senga said he ignored all attempts by anti-Arroyo groups to talk to him. He said retired Army chief Fortunato Abat was among those trying to talk to him. He did not name the others.

Senga said he believes there are deliberate efforts to destabilize the Armed Forces, citing rumors that circulated since January about his supposed resignation, a military plot to install Senate President Franklin Drilon as president, and "strained ties" between him on one hand and the President and Army chief Lt. Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr. on the other.

He said the persistent rumors were meant to destroy the AFP. "Once the AFP gives in, it will be chaos," he said.

According to the INQUIRER story, Lim, Marine Col. Ariel Querubin and former Marine commandant Maj. Gen. Renato Miranda met with Senga on the eve of the Feb. 24 supposed withdrawal of support.

SENGA: "I'm not capable of running the government."

Miscalculation

But Senga said he only spoke with Lim and Querubin that night. Miranda joined the emergency meeting that Senga later called to try to talk Lim and Querubin out of going through with their plan.

Asked why Lim and Querubin would reveal their plans to him, Senga simply said, "They miscalculated me."

Esperon, when reached for comment, accused the INQUIRER of provoking a fight among the top brass.

He refused to comment and instead issued this statement through Army spokesperson Maj. Bartolome Bacarro: "Gen. Esperon's firm stand to quell the plot has nothing to do with his alleged involvement in the 'Hello Garci scandal' but rather because of his firm commitment to his constitutional duty and in compliance to orders of Gen. Senga."

Bacarro said that "the insinuation that the AFP leadership, particularly the CSAFP (Chief of staff, AFP) and the major service commanders, had differing views/stands as to the events that unfolded, is untrue and unfounded."

"The AFP leadership has not vacillated in their commitment to support the Commander in Chief. Under the leadership of Gen. Senga, the AFP has always remained true to its commitment, loyal to the Constitution and committed to protect it from any destabilization," he added.

Senga said he had "good working relations" with Esperon."

Not vacillating

Vice Admiral Mateo Mayuga, Flag Officer in Command of the Philippine Navy, yesterday decried allegations that only Esperon had opposed the plan to replace Ms Arroyo with a military caretaker government.

"That's an unfair statement. The chain of command was intact, starting from the Commander in Chief to the chief of staff. We cannot exist without a Commander in Chief—without the President," Mayuga told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview.

"The article makes it appear that we were vacillating. That is not fair. We are following the chain of command. That story is sending wrong signals to the troops. It's confusing the men in the field," he said. *With a report from Fe Zamora*

Now it can be told: Who's who in civilian council

From page A1

Eddie Villanueva, were considered for the council.

But De Villa, a former AFP chief of staff, reportedly threatened to quit if exiled communist leader Jose Ma. Sison were allowed to sit in the council to represent the Communist Party of the Philippines (CCP), the INQUIRER source said.

"E di kayo na lang diyan," the source, who was among the troops who planned to join the Feb. 24 march, quoted De Villa as saying.

According to the sources, Lacson was also in a bind because "he wanted to run in the snap election," violating a condition prohibiting council members from seeking elective posts as proof of their "purity of intentions."

Advisers

To complete the new interim administration, a group of advisers, possibly comprising former President Corazon Aquino, former President Fidel Ramos, retired Maj. Gen. Fortunato Abat and even former President Joseph Estrada, in case he was cleared of the plunder charges, would also be created

First edict

For its first edict, the council, composed (initially) of three to five members, would rule the results of the May 2004 election "null and void," declare the positions of President and Vice President vacant and call for a snap election at the earliest date possible, the sources said.

The declaration would be followed by a cleansing of the bureaucracy, especially the Commission on Elections (Comelec) to ensure a fair and honest elections, the sources said.

"That is the patriotic intention of the council," the source said, adding that the "work agenda was more important than the personalities."

'Get her out first'

He said the idea of a "collective leadership" was the result of a study and consultation made by the various groups who agreed to join the movement against Ms Arroyo.

"The important thing is to get her out first," he said.

The source said the effort to bring in Senga to head the council started days before Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim reportedly bared his plans to Senga that he was joining the people's march on Edsa on Feb. 24.

Primer on council

"General Senga was given a primer on the transition council with the program of government for the first 100 days. We don't know if he read it," the source said.

A former Arroyo official who crossed over to the opposition said that De Villa and Orbos "talked" to Senga about withdrawing support from Ms Arroyo.

Just like Angelo Reyes

It would be reprising what the then AFP chief of staff Gen. Angelo Reyes did. His breakaway in January 2001 resulted in the ouster of President Joseph Estrada.

"There is no law that says withdrawal of support is a crime," the former Arroyo official, who is also a lawyer, told the INQUIRER.

He said this would explain why Lim was "so confident" in telling Senga about the plans of the junior officers to march at Edsa on Feb. 24, and his own plans to join the march.

De Villa, who had already denied a role in the so-called conspiracy, declined an INQUIRER request for an interview, saying he needed to focus on his sick wife.

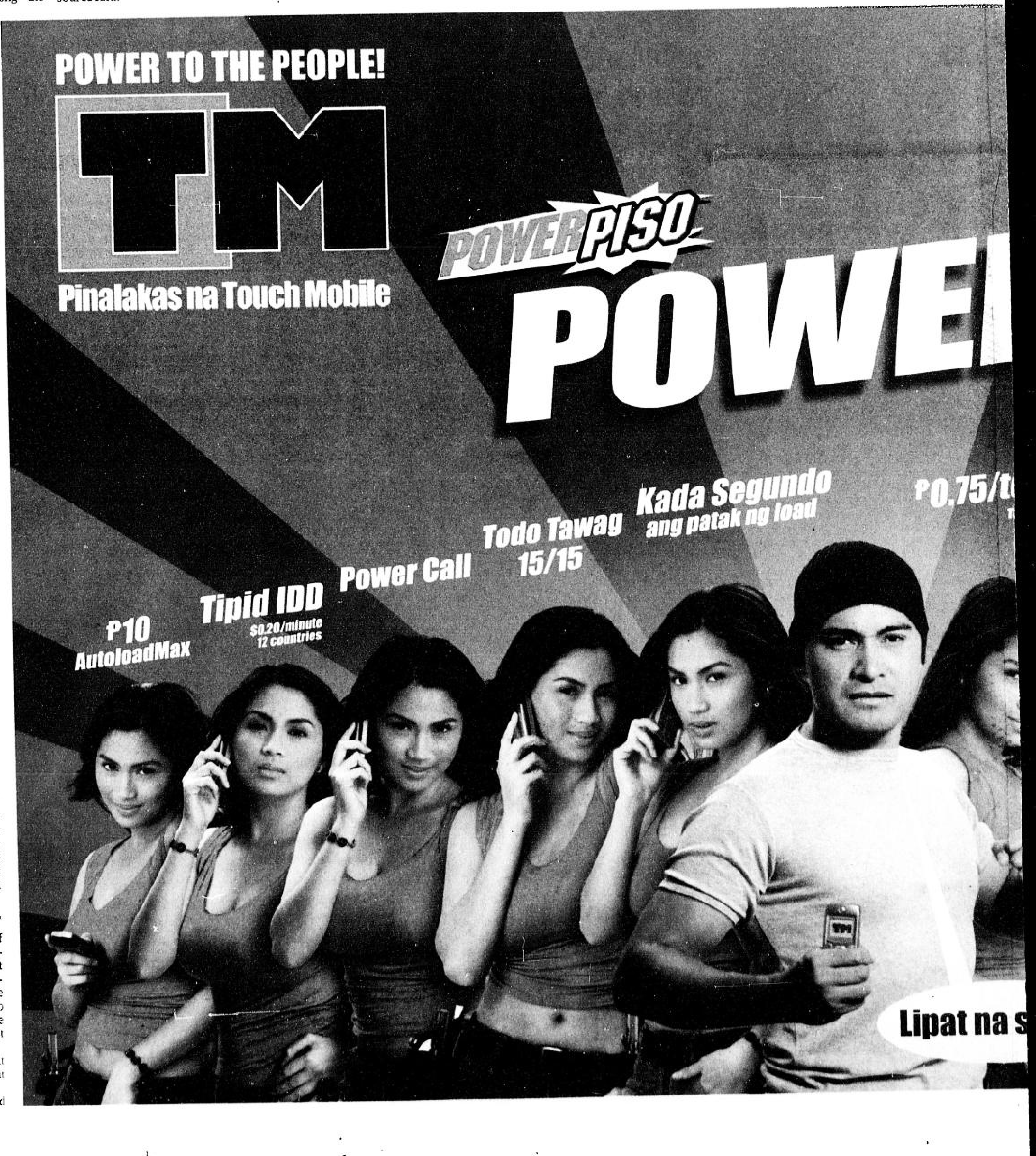
In the event that Senga refused to head the council, then a military oversight committee would be created along with the council, the sources said.

The military faction did not "realize the extent of infiltration" until the Feb. 26 standoff at the Philippine Marines headquarters.

Fair trial for GMA et al.

Aside from the snap election, another top item on the agenda was a "fair trial" for Ms Arroyo, Virgilio Garcillano, Agriculture Undersecretary Jocelyn "Joc-Joc" Bolante and others who have been linked to the corruption and electoral fraud scandals under the Arroyo administration.

The sources said the trial of former President Estrada and the Oakwood mutineers would continue and would be resolved also within a given date.



Milosevic found dead

THE HAGUE – FORMER YUgoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, known as the "Butcher of the Balkans," was found dead in his cell Saturday, the United Nations tribunal trying him for war crimes and genocide said.

"Today, Saturday March 11, Slobodan Milosevic was found lifeless on his bed in his cell at the UN detention unit in Scheveningen," said a statement by the court in The Hague.

"The guard immediately alerted the detention unit officer in command and the medical officer. The latter confirmed that Milosevic was dead," the court said in a statement.

The court launched an inquiry into the death.

A full autopsy and a toxicological report have been ordered, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia said.

Milosevic's family was informed of his death, it added.

But Russia's Interfax news agency quoted the brother of Milosevic – Borislav Milosovic – as saying the tribual in The Hague "carries full responsibility" for the death.

Milosevic, 64, had been on trial before the UN court since February 2002 on more than 60 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity for his role in the 1990s Balkan wars.

He was facing separate genocide charges related to the 1992-95 war in Bosnia.

Milosevic, who defended himself, never recognized the court's legitimacy and refused even to make written submissions.

He defied international sanctions and NATO bombs over nearly a decade of strife in the former Yugoslavia and was unmoved by the accusations against him.

He stoked conflicts that left more than 200,000 people dead, up to three million homeless and the Yugoslav economy in ruins.

But the burly firebrand made no apologies for his actions in Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo, where his drive for a Greater Serbia "cleansed" of Croats and Muslims sparked a rash of grisly massacres and finally a showdown with the West.

"I'm proud for everything I did in defending my country and my people," he told US television network Fox News in a phone interview in 2001 from his jail outside The Hague while he was awaiting trial.

"All my decisions are legitimate and legal, based on the constitution of Yugoslavia and based on the rights to self-defense."

Milosevic was the first former head of state to appear before an international criminal court and faced life in jail if convicted. But he portrayed himself as a besieged statesman who struggled to keep the crumbling Yugoslav federation intact against separatists and "terrorists." *AFP*

TOP UP PROFESSORS

Six faculty members of the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City, were awarded recently the Gawad Chanselor Natatanging Guro for excellence in teaching. They are shown with UP Diliman Chancellor Sergio S. Cao (center). They are (from left) Prof. Bronne C. Dytoc, college of architecture; Prof. Ruben D. F. Defeo, college of fine arts; Dr. Ameurfina D. Santos, college of science; Dr. Dina Joana Ocampo, college of education; Dr. Emmanuel S. de Dios, school of economics, and Dr. Caesar A. Saloma, college of science.

Ibuprofen+ Paracetamol
ALAXAN FR
Fast Release means quicker relief from body pain
P7.65
If symptoms persist, consult your doctor.

Suspected Abu Sayyaf bomber nabbed

By Nancy Carvajal

A SUSPECTED ABU SAYYAF MEMBER ALlegedly responsible for a series of bombings in Mindanao and Metro Manila which killed more than 100 people was arrested on Friday in Valenzuela City.

The suspect, identified as Ali Ambing, was nabbed in his hideout in Barangay Arkong Bato by joint elements of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group led by Chief Insp. Wilfredo Serrano and the Quezon City district intelligence group led by Supt. James Brillantes.

Seized from the suspect was a duffle bag containing military and police uniforms, materials for improvised explosives, pictures of suspected Abu Sayyaf bomb squad members, including Madznu Ladja.

"The suspect would be brought to the Naval Intelligence Task Force for confirmation of his identification," said Quezon City Police District director Chief Supt. Nicasio Radovan in his report submitted to National Capital Region police chief Director Vidal Querol.

Radovan, when contacted by the INQUIRER, confirmed the arrest but declined to give additional.

The report said the arrested Abu Sayyaf suspect was responsible for the preparation of the explosives used in the SuperFerry blast on Feb.27, 2002, where more than 116 people were reported killed.

It also said that Ambing was one of the primary suspects in the blast at a videoke bar in Malagutay, Zamboanga City, on Oct. 2, 2002, that killed a US serviceman and three Filipinos.

Ladja who was also allegedly involved in the Malagutay explosion is now detained at the Bicutan jail.

The report said the suspect was also involved in the Fort Del Pilar blast and the Valentine's Day bus bombings in Makati City in 2005.

The police report said that the Ambing was spotted in the company of two unidentified persons at a mall along Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City at around 1:30 p.m. Friday.

Sensing the presence of operatives, the report said, the small group broke up and scampered away in different directions.

FBI to aid PNP

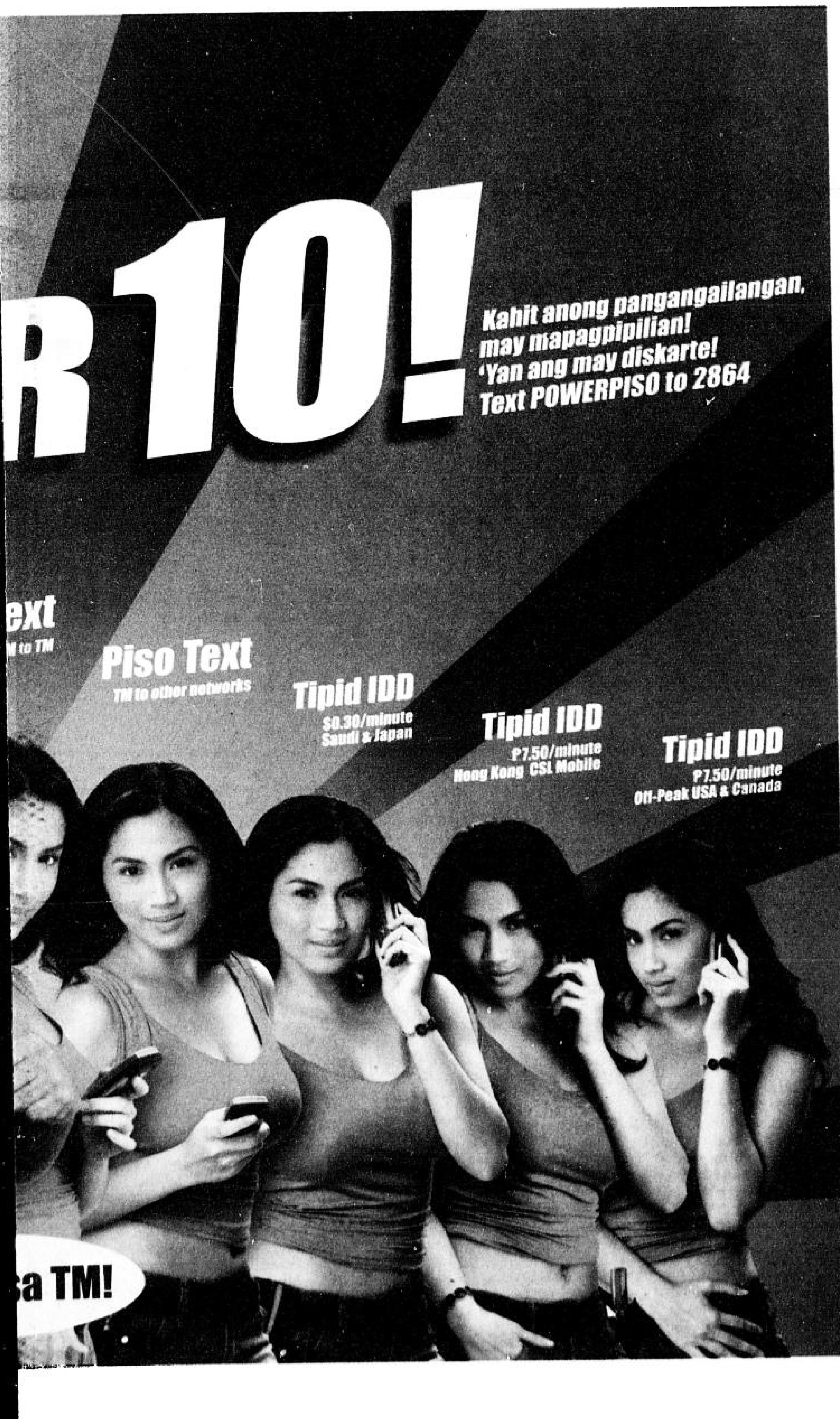
A TOP US FEDERAL Bureau of Investigation official on Saturday offered assistance and training to the Philippines' anti-crime and antiterror campaigns, police said.

FBI Deputy Director John S. Pistole held a closed-door meeting Saturday with Director General Arturo Lomibao and other senior officials of the Philippine National Police in which he was briefed on the government's efforts to combat al-Qaida-linked terror groups, the Muslim insurgency and an alleged emerging alliance between communist and military rebels.

"He expressed full satisfaction over the gains we have been making in the fight against crime and terrorism and offered the FBI's full assistance, particularly in terms of training and the grant of modern crime-fighting tools," Lomibao said.

US Embassy spokesperson Matthew Lussenhop said Pistole was also scheduled to meet with officials of the National Bureau of Investigation and the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency "to touch base with them and discuss some of the issues in law enforcement cooperation and counterterrorism cooperation that's going on between the US and the Philippines."

Chief Supt. Ernesto Belen, director of the PNP crime laboratory, said they submitted a "wish list" to Pistole that included modern forensic equipment to handle chemical, biological and nuclear incidents, DNA analysis and drug detection, plus training. *AP*



1. Kada Segundo ang patak ng load — Kada segundo na ang TM to TM calls! P0.10/second na lang! Tamang-tama para sa mabilis na usapan! I-dial ang 803 <10 digit TM number> (ex. 803926XXXXXXX). Hanggang Mar. 16, 2006. See print ads for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 7211, Series of 2005.

2. P0.75/text TM to TM — P0.75 na lang ang TM to TM text! May sukli pa ang Piso mo! Hanggang Mar. 16, 2006. See print ads for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 7253, Series of 2005.

3. Todo Tawag 15/15 — Para sa mahabang tawagan! P15 lang ang TM to TM calls hanggang 15 minutes! Piso Per Minute talaga! I-dial ang 800<10 digit TM number> (ex. 800926XXXXXXX) at pindutin ang "Call". Dapat may P15 minimum account balance. Hanggang Mar. 15, 2006. See print ads for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 6279, Series of 2005.

4. Power Call — Regular na tawag man o telebabad, sulit ito! P1.00 per minute lang ang TM to TM calls after the 2nd minute! P5.50 per minute lang ang first 2 minutes. Regular service ito, hindi promo!

5. Piso Text TM to other networks — Piso lang ang TM text sa LAHAT ng ibang local cellular networks! Regular service ito, hindi promo!

6. Lowest P10 Globe Autoload Max — Para lang sa TM subscribers, puwede kang magpa-AutoloadMax ng P10 lang! At may papiso-pisong dagdag pa (P11, P12, etc)! Abot-kaya talaga dahil ang gaan sa bulsa mag-load!

7. Tipid IDD $0.20/minute 12 countries — $0.20 per minute na lang ang overseas calls sa 12 countries: UK, USA, Canada, Hong Kong, China, Kuwait, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Taiwan at Australia. Power sulit mula first minute hanggang sawa! I-dial ang 12800<country code><area code><phone number> (ex.128001560XXXXXXX) at pindutin ang "Call". Only calls with the correct dialing format will qualify for the promo. Promo runs until Mar. 25, 2006. See print ads for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4416, Series of 2005.

8. Tipid IDD $0.30/minute Saudi & Japan — $0.30 per minute lang ang TM calls to Saudi Arabia and Japan!* I-dial ang 12800<country code><area code><phone number> (ex.1280081904XXXXXXX) at pindutin ang "Call". *Promo open to registered Globe Kababayan subscribers only. To register for FREE, send GK to 2242. Only calls with the correct dialing format will qualify for the promo. Promo runs until April 10, 2006. Approved by DTI-NCR. See print ads for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0933, Series of 2006.

9. Tipid IDD P7.50/minute Hong Kong CSL Mobile — P7.50 per minute lang ang TM calls to CSL Mobile subscribers sa Hong Kong! I-dial ang 12800<country code><area code><phone number> (ex.12800852605XXXXX) at pindutin ang "Call". Only calls with the correct dialing format will qualify for the promo. Promo runs from Feb. 15 to Mar. 16, 2006. See print ads for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1015, Series of 2006.

10. Tipid IDD 7.50/minute Off-Peak USA & Canada — P7.50 per minute lang ang TM calls to the US and Canada during off-peak hours (10:00pm to 5:59am)! I-dial ang 12808<country code><area code><phone number> (ex.128081560XXXXXXX) at pindutin ang "Call". Only calls with the correct dialing format and made within the prescribed time slot will qualify for the promo. Promo runs until April 10, 2006. Approved by DTI-NCR. See print ads for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1263, Series of 2006.

KAS NG GLOBE

ISSN 0116-2642
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Vol. 21 No. 94

Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net
OPINION
Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

The Philippine Daily Inquirer, Inc. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
•Circulation Customer Service Hotline 896-6000

Publisher **Isagani Yambot**
Editor in Chief **Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc**
Managing Editor **Jose Ma. D. Nolasco**
Associate Editor **Abelardo S. Ulanday**
Associate Editor for Readership **Rosario A. Garcellano**
News Editor **Artemio T. Engracia Jr.** • *Chief, News Day Desk* **Nilo B. Paurom**
Opinion Editor **Jorge V. Aruta**
National Editor **Pergentino B. Bandayrel Jr.**
Senior Desk Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**
Editorial Consultant **Amando Doronila**
Chief Photographer **Ernie U. Sarmiento**
Art & Design Director **Lynett A. Villariba**

Board Chairman **Marixi R. Prieto**
President **Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez**
Executive Vice President **David O. Valdes**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **Renato R. Reinoso**
VP for Advertising **Felipe R. Olarte**
AVP for Circulation **Gloria P. Lardizabal**

Readers' Advocate **Lorna Kalaw Tirol**
readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph • Tel. No. 897-8808, Loc. 342

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

Arresting lies

EDITORIAL

APPARENTLY, THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE'S short stint as media overseer of The Daily Tribune has gotten to its head. Now police spokesmen feel they can insult our intelligence with Orwellian language games.

The day after the televised arrest of Akbayan party-list Rep. Risa Hontiveros-Baraquel, for leading a protest rally on the occasion of International Women's Day, the police chief of Metro Manila, Director Vidal Querol, tried to tell us not to believe what we had seen with our own eyes.

"Who says she was arrested? She was taken out of the rally site because of an impending dispersal," Querol said, with a straight face. This economical version of the truth does not square with the facts, or with Baraquel's revelation that a police officer had told her she was being arrested on charges of "illegal assembly *'ata*." Facts are exactly like street demonstrators: They are inconvenient, but can be easily routed.

Querol said the decision to remove Baraquel from the scene was emphatically altruistic. "She was taken out of danger," he told reporters.

Well, the party-list representative was not exactly spirited out of the rally site; she was bodily carried off it, and against her will. Facts, mere details. Small wonder the act of forcing her into a waiting police vehicle like a common criminal did not bother Querol or his conscience. He described the act, blithely, as mere "police assistance."

Apparently, Baraquel needed such police assistance to protect her from the permit-less street protest's imminent police dispersal. "She could get hurt," Querol said. "She might be wounded and get bloodied. All the more the police would be blamed."

To make sure the public got his drift, the unrepentant Querol repeated his, ah, creative misuse of language. He pledged to render police assistance to Baraquel every time she attends a rally without a permit; "we will do that over and over again to take her out of danger."

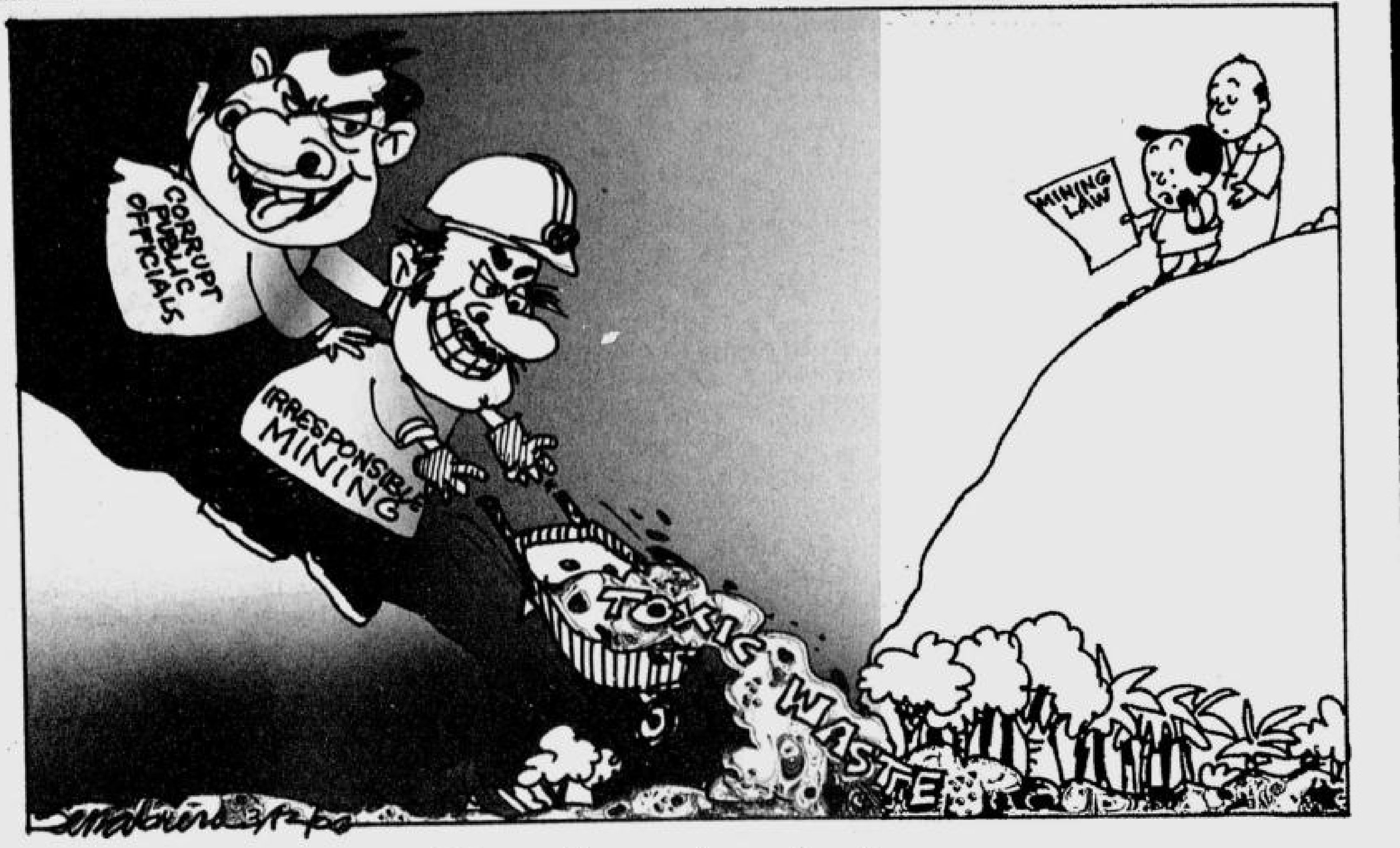
In his totalitarian fantasy, "1984," the great George Orwell invented Newspeak, political language designed to subvert meaning (the war department, for example, is called the Ministry of Peace). But the clearest exposition of his views on political language can be found in the classic essay from 1946, "Politics and the English Language."

"In our time, political speech and writing are largely the defense of the indefensible," Orwell wrote, exactly 60 years before Querol's daring doublespeak on behalf of the impossible-to-defend. Orwell then defined the essence of that defense: "Political language has to consist largely of euphemism, question-begging and sheer cloudy vagueness. Defenseless villages are bombarded from the air, the inhabitants driven out into the countryside, the cattle machine-gunned, the huts set on fire with incendiary bullets: this is called **pacification**. Millions of peasants are robbed of their farms and sent trudging along the roads with no more than they can carry: this is called **transfer of population** or **rectification of frontiers**."

Or, to add Querol's contributions to the political lexicon: A member of Congress, with constitutionally guaranteed immunity from arrest, is arrested for leading an anti-administration rally without a permit; this is called **taking her out of danger**, with some **police assistance**.

Orwell again: "The great enemy of clear language is insincerity. When there is a gap between one's real and one's declared aims, one turns, as it were, instinctively to, long words [e.g., calibrated preemptive response] and exhausted idioms [e.g., protect my votes], like a cuttlefish spurting out ink."

To be sure, Querol is not the only high official guilty of the use of doublespeak. Presidential Chief of Staff Michael Defensor defends the indefensible by calling the Hyatt 10, once the moderate members of the Arroyo Cabinet, the true hardliners. And the President herself defends the indefensible by describing the act of calling an election official a mere "lapse in judgment." Querol, in other words, was merely using the administration's *lingua franca*.



Freedom in chains

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

MY ARTICLE LAST SUNDAY DISCUSSED Proclamation No. 1017 as if it were still in effect although I had written about it in the past tense the day before. I had e-mailed my articles for last weekend the other Thursday but had revised them when GMA lifted her edict on March 3. Nevertheless, it was my original unedited version and not its revision that was published on March 5 as a result of some mix-up.

Except for the tense lapse, the views I expressed there in defense of freedom of expression remain unchanged. The eloquent statements I quoted are eternal verities that did not become irrelevant because of the formal withdrawal of Proclamation No. 1017. With or without that questionable decree, freedom of expression continues to be the paramount safeguard of liberty in democratic societies.

Neither the issuance nor the subsequent withdrawal of Proclamation No. 1017 has diminished freedom of expression as "the instrument and the guaranty and the bright consummate flower of all liberty."

I repeat Justice Holmes' opinion that this freedom exists not so much for the thought that agrees with us as for the thought that we abhor. Otherwise, there would be no need at all for such a toadying license. If all it would guarantee was to sing panegyrics in favor of those in power, freedom of expression would be a vicious weapon to muzzle peaceful opposition. Justice Jackson would call it "a teasing illusion, like a munificent bequest in a pauper's will."

President Arroyo has herself made it threateningly clear that she would not relent in the arrest and prosecution of those elements plotting against her government. Her soldiers and policemen are still determined to hound and punish all those who would sabotage her regime and oust her from her imperiled perch in the Palace of the People. My mention last Sunday of that proclamation still in the present tense may not really have been a mistake after all.

The continued threat of Proclamation No. 1017 is the reason why the petitioners against it are asking the Supreme Court to squarely rule on the constitutionality of the order as against the claim that its formal withdrawal by President Arroyo has rendered it moot and academic. They feel that their challenge should not be conveniently dismissed as no longer viable because that ruling, while technically correct, would nevertheless ignore the realities of the present situation.

This brings to mind my own experience on a similar question that was raised in Evelio Javier vs. Commission on Elections, 144 SCRA 194, which was raffled to me in 1987. After making an initial study of the case, which the old Supreme Court had purposely sat on, I recommended that we grant the solicitor general's motion to dismiss it on the ground that it had become moot and academic.

Chief Justice Claudio Teehankee thought differently, however. He felt that the new Supreme Court should take a categorical stand on the important issues raised in the petition and its historic significance on the subsequent downfall of the Marcos dictatorship. We should, he suggested, "give a message" to the nation of the mission and methods of the new Judiciary. I saw his point and so began my *ponencia* with the following justification:

"The Supreme Court is not only the highest arbiter of legal questions but also the conscience of the government. The citizen comes to us in quest of law but we must also give him justice. The two are not always the same. There are times when we cannot grant the latter because the issue has been settled and decision is no longer possible according to the law. But there are also times when although the issue has disappeared, as in this case, it nevertheless cries out to be resolved. Justice demands that we act then, not for the vindication of the outraged right, though gone, but also for the guidance of and as a restraint upon the future."

The Supreme Court has every right to ignore the above observations as mere obiter, considering the many serious questions awaiting its decision. The challenge to Executive Order No. 464, for example, is still unresolved since it was filed five months ago to seek the intervention of the high tribunal in the serious constitutional dispute between President Arroyo and the Senate.

The usual ploy of the military when sued in habeas corpus proceedings is to simply release the detainees and then move to dismiss the petition for having become moot and academic. The motion is usually granted. This might also be the practice of President Arroyo in trying to get off the hook where the cards appear to be stacked against her, as in that pending case.

Such a solution would also be welcome to the 14 incumbent justices of the Supreme Court, 12 of whom are appointees of President Arroyo. These beneficiaries would naturally avoid annoying and embarrassing the person who is the principal reason they are sitting on the highest court in the land. Hopefully, however, they are stalwart justices whose first loyalty is to the rule of law and will boldly vote, for or against GMA, only as their conscience bids them.

Let's wait and see—soon.

Are you listening?

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

ONE TIME IN A PARTY, I HAPPENED TO BE seated beside a person who had an "I" disease. He kept talking about himself, so I just kept quiet and listened. After a while he realized that he was monopolizing the conversation, so he told me: "Ah, Father Orbos, you are so quiet. Why don't you say something *naman*...about me!"

***

In today's Gospel (Mk. 9, 2-10) we read about the Transfiguration of Jesus before His disciples. Peter, so overwhelmed by the experience, starts talking about his plan to build three tents there, whereupon he is interrupted by a voice that says: "This is my beloved son. Listen to Him."

The key to real transfiguration for us is listening. If we really listen to God speaking to us in prayer and in the signs of the times, we open ourselves to transfiguration and transformation.

***

Transfiguration is not something that is bragged or talked about. Rather it is something that shows; and it bears four evident fruits: honesty, humility, hard work and holiness in life.

***

HONESTY. Someone who really listens to God can't help but be honest because before God, nothing is hidden. We can fool others, we can fool ourselves, but we cannot fool God. It can happen that someone can be very prayerful but still goes on lying, cheating and stealing because he or she is not really listening hard enough. Such a person, more often than not, is listening to the evil one who specializes in rationalizations and half-truths.

***

HUMILITY. As far as I know, it is usually others, not we ourselves, who point out our own goodness. In my 53 years in this world, and 25 years as a priest, I have met a lot of people who impressed me, but those who inspired and touched me most were those who knew how to fade away in humility. Great people know how to be humble and how to let go and to let God.

***

Still on the topic of humility, someone said that if you want God to laugh, tell Him your plans. If you want God to laugh some more, tell Him your plans for others. And if you want God to laugh in disbelief, tell Him your plans for Him. It is lack of basic respect and humility when somebody uses God's name to push one's personal agenda in this world.

***

HARD WORK. A person who truly listens to God knows that all the talking will amount to nothing if there is no doing. God never said that it will be easy. All He said was that He will be with us. There are no shortcuts; there is no easy way as we go about working for the Lord. Hard work is not what is published in the papers. Hard work is that which is presented to God in prayer, in hidden-ness, in humility and in gratitude. Let us learn from God: If He made a photo-opportunity out of everything and everyone, He would not have been able to work, at all.

***

HOLINESS. A person who really listens to God begins to follow God in the path of holiness. He begins to know the value of sacrifice and self-denial, both of which end with self-emptying. There are people who are prayerful and devotional, but they are not holy at all because their holiness is just a put-on. Religiosity is not the true measure of spirituality. As long as it is still "I, me and myself" in a person's heart, there is no place for the divine and the holy.

***

"Listen to Him." This is a very good reminder for all of us, especially for those who have big responsibilities. With so many voices and noises all around us, we must really listen and ask: "Lord, what is your will? What do you want?" And may our response be, "Lord, thy will be done. Yes Lord, whatever you want!"

***

I am amazed at how some people are willing to give up anyone and anything just to hold on to money, power, fame, positions. I can imagine the comfort, ease and pleasures that come along with their lot, but I can't help but wonder how much stress and strain they encounter in their holding on. Maybe, it's a great life, but not a good life, without much thought on the after life. A text message said it beautifully: "Strange how people can be so preoccupied with a life we can not hold on to, and neglect an eternity we can't run away from."

***

Inviting you to a "Dinner for a Cause" on April 8, Saturday. The gathering will start with a Mass at 5 p.m. at Christ the King Seminary, E. Rodriguez Sr. Blvd., Quezon City. Proceeds from this fund-raising activity will be used for the repair and improvement of our castle-like building in time for its Diamond Jubilee celebration. We, your priests, will serve as waiters in the said dinner. For inquiries, please call 726-5002 to 04, 412-1241, 412-1242, 722-5684 and 721-7457.

***

Inviting you for a pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes and Medjugorje from May 13 to 25. For inquiries please call 5238581 to 88 and 7217457.

***

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, in prayer, help me to really listen to you and to your people and not just to myself. Amen.

Cash and coups

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

MANY, MANY YEARS AGO, THE PLACE TO SHOP was a mall called Cash and Carry in Pasay City. It had the best of imported goods at reasonable prices and no one ever asked if taxes and duties had been paid for all the imports on display. Neither was the place raided by government agents—except for sporadic shakedown visits—to determine any lost revenues or how, in the first place, the goods had gotten out of the waterfront in commercial quantities. A lot of the items available were also brought in by airline crews coming off international flights. If you wanted something not available at the moment, arrangements could be made for pickup at some later date.

* * *

Last week, in the aftermath of an aborted coup—some people say it was not a coup but a planned withdrawal of support for the government by AFP elements—it was revealed that the Saludo Sa Kawal Pilipino Foundation, headed by Manuel "Beaver" Lopez, ousted President Estrada's son-in-law, donated P3 million to a cooperative of Philippine Marines, on the basis of a solicitation letter from Ma. Flor Querubin, wife of Col. Ariel Querubin. The letter was picked up at her home by a representative of the foundation and the donation was delivered to the Querubin residence. According to news reports, similar amounts were also donated to the Scout Rangers and the families of the Magdalo group of detained junior officers.

I realize that our men in uniform can use all the financial help that may be offered by grateful citizens who are aware of their sacrifices and their needs. But there are certain aspects of these particular transactions that are disturbing. From time to time, in the armed forces, there are all kinds of fund-raising activities which involve soliciting donations from business firms or individuals. But these are generally limited to soliciting equipment for facilities, merchandise for raffle prizes, the selling of bingo tickets or tickets for movie benefit screenings or golf tournaments and sometimes cash in the amounts of P50,000 to P100,000 for organization funds.

This is the first instance I hear of donations in the amount of seven figures to special units like the Marines or Scout Rangers. The question in my mind is: Do other AFP units like, for instance, our engineering battalions which are involved in civic action programs beneficial to the community, also get the same attention? If they have a solicitation letter, would representatives of these donors pick up the letter themselves and then deliver the donation to the unit? How about AFP hospitals and dental facilities—have they received such generous contributions in cash?

Perhaps, it is time for the Armed Forces leadership to take a closer look at this matter and then lay down the rules and regulations that should cover similar transactions. It would also be interesting to determine how widespread are the solicitations being undertaken by individuals on behalf of AFP units, and what the guidelines are for the use of these funds from private entities. This is a responsibility of the AFP considering that the donations are being made to military organizations.

The profession of arms has always been a noble calling. It has always stood for sacrifice and service. Because of the power of the arms that we bear, we must ensure that our guns are not for hire or for sale to anyone or any group, including government itself. They are to be used solely to protect our people—not necessarily people in government. Otherwise, we become mercenaries or soldiers of fortune beholden to the highest bidders or the highest officials of the land. And when this happens, our uniforms are forever stained, our credibility comes under a cloud, and our integrity irreparably lost.

* * *

The Armed Forces of the Philippines has announced there will be no amnesty for "habitual delinquents." But we all know that amnesty is a political tool whose use will be decided not by the AFP but by the political leaders of the land. After the 1989 coup attempt, there were also similar calls by the AFP leadership but, in the end, reconciliation and national unity became the main arguments of the government in the grant of amnesty to coup plotters.

These days, we are developing a vocabulary all our own about coup d'etat. If the plot against government succeeds, it is a coup. If it fails, it was a planned withdrawal of support for the government which did not materialize. Incidentally, according to Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, this type of action was "institutionalized" by Gen. Angelo Reyes and Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in 2001. Reyes has since gone from AFP chief of staff to defense secretary to interior secretary and now environment secretary.

One thing is clear: It all boils down to success or failure. Those who win are hailed as the defenders of the Constitution. Those who lose are branded "misguided elements" out to destabilize the administration. From the look of things, there is still no end in sight to the problems confronting the AFP. Until questions of legitimacy and abuse of power—as symbolized by the the "Hello Garci" controversy and the fertilizer fund scandal, respectively—are finally resolved, restiveness in the ranks will continue.

Middle-class and angry

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

I RECENTLY WROTE IN THIS COLUMN ABOUT A couple of letters from "members of the Filipino middle class" expressing their, feelings regarding the anti-GMA protests and how "ordinary" folk were fed up not just with traffic disruptions caused by rallies, but also with constantly feeling angry and judged as "apathetic."

In that same column, I reprinted excerpts of a response from Enteng Romano of the anti-GMA Black and White Movement. Imagine my surprise when I received a response in turn from the author of one of the letters. It turns out that I know him personally! He is Bong Austero, a human resources expert who is president of the Board of Trustees of the Remedios AIDS Foundation, of which I am (ahem) vice president.

Here's Bong's letter with minimal editing, mainly for length. Readers who wish to read the open letter that started it all may log on to bongaustero.blogspot.com

* * *

YES, I am the S. C. Austero who wrote that open letter that caused this whole furor. I wrote that letter Sunday evening, right after the "standoff" at Fort Bonifacio was supposedly resolved. I wrote it in an hour's time. I wrote it for my blog, and sent it to 20 of my closest friends... I am amazed that that letter has gone around the world, been read on television, published in many newspapers, and dissected in many online fora.

As far as I know, there are only two letters of the same nature that are going around. My letter, and a letter in Tagalog supposedly written by someone speaking for the "middle-class." I guess it is true, the battle has shifted to cyberspace.

The point is this: I am not a paid hack by Malacañang. And the hundreds of people who forwarded that letter and posted it on many online discussion groups, and defended that letter fiercely (even on INQ7) could not be paid hacks by Malacañang—there are just too many of them. I continue to receive lots and lots of e-mails from people all over the world. The percentage is telling, although I would not say it is representative of the general population: 97 percent expressed support, 3 percent dissed that letter. You are right for giving it the benefit of the doubt, there is a mass of people out there who shared the sentiments of that letter, picked it up and forwarded it to the world. Nobody told them to do that. They did that on their own.

* * *

RINA, these people exist. They are real. And my sense is that they are even angrier now because their existence is being dismissed matter-of-factly.

There are reasons why I have decided to cast my lot with the President despite the fact that I simply do not like her. You can say that this is "conditioned" and "temporary" taking of sides. There is a moral "marginalization" being perpetuated by some people who are so convinced of their righteousness and speak with such sanctimoniousness, they have succeeded in alienating people. That is what did it for me. That simply was the tipping point. There is something glaringly wrong with the way civil society is conducting this fight.

Enteng Romano, whom you quote in your column, does more of the same—he mocks us for being angry. What is so wrong with being angry? First, we are dismissed for being immoral and for conniving with a thief. And now even our emotions are subject to ridicule?

There are those who bring in the "class" perspective to the whole issue and then accuse me of dividing this country. They scoff at me for being supposedly so "middle class in orientation." For the record, I am a child of a farmer and a public schoolteacher and I went to college on scholarship.

* * *

BUT what does it matter if I am middle class or if I am a peasant, if I live in Forbes Park or in Tondo? Does that increase the weight of my opinions? Does that give me more—or less—rights as a citizen? This condescending attitude towards the middle class—or towards people who disagree is alarming.

And then are those who insist that because I wrote so convincingly, I must be a paid hack. I am flattered that my writing style is being praised, but I am a simple work drone with an 8-5 job, a teaching stint at nights and weekends, and a foundation to oversee.

But I choose not to nitpick with those who disagree with my letter. If people disagree with me, by all means they should disagree. They are free to do that, I certainly concede that there are people out there armed with a more incisive mind, better debating skills, or more comprehensive propaganda material (all of which I do not have at the moment), who can cut my letter down to pieces.

They can out-fact me, they can out-argue me, they can out-debate me. That still does not make me wrong. I would like to clarify: I did not claim to be legally, intellectually, morally, ideologically correct in that letter. I said I was angry. I said I was sick and tired. I said I want to move on already. I think those are valid personal emotions. I do not need people to tell me why I am angry, or why I am so wrong to be angry; and then call me immoral, unpatriotic, naïve, and stupid simply because I happen to have a different perspective.

This moral "exclusivist" point of view is exactly what turned me off. That was the point of that letter. I just had it with people who kept on preaching about why we should not forget the evils of the past while linking arms with Imee Marcos and JV Ejercito. I just had it with people who advocate only one standard of morality: their own. They continue to do that by calling me names and inferring motives and dismissing people like me. I have news for them—that won't make me or the others like me disappear. In fact, it is exactly that condescending attitude that drives people like me to the other side.

Ideals and betrayals

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

ALMOST EVERYONE WILL PROBABLY AGREE that our national life today is pervaded by a sense of exhaustion. This is best indicated by the weariness we exhale at seeing the faces of the same persons who have dominated the political stage in the last 40 years. Instead of finding in them traces of the values we once fought for, we see only reminders of ideals betrayed. Instead of drawing strength from our past, we burden ourselves with its disappointments.

When the history of our country in the last four decades is finally written, I am sure it will be filled with references to four individuals: Ferdinand Marcos, Cory Aquino, Joseph Estrada and Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Each one of them represents a powerful impulse and the promise of a decisive break from all that came before. Each one of them also symbolizes a point of decadence. If we desire to rise from the corruption and move forward, we must patiently retrieve the sources of vitality in our national life. A good way to start is to clarify the ideals we have fought for, using as guides the discontinuities in the nation's recent past.

Here I examine four such moments of discontinuity: 1972, 1986, 1998 and 2001. They correspond, respectively, to the rise of Marcos, Cory, Erap and GMA.

We mostly associate the Marcos regime today with tyranny and corruption. We forget that this government rose and was initially supported by the people precisely on its promise of a modern dynamic economy run by entrepreneurs and industrialists and freed from the grip of a parasitic land-based oligarchy. At great costs to human rights, Marcos partly delivered on this promise. It was during his time, for example, that the infrastructure for sustained development was first laid down. Indeed Marcos buried the country in debt—partly because of corruption, but partly also because of the massive financial resources that a state-led development program required. None of this, however, should dim the vision of economic development that, at one point, the Marcos regime represented for our people. It remains a vital goal.

The message that Cory Aquino symbolized in 1986 was that basic political freedoms and human rights must never be sacrificed at the altar of economic development. That message—the message of liberal democracy—became the driving force of Edsa I. The program of re-democratization that Edsa I jump-started was unfortunately hijacked early by the impresarios of traditional politics. Instead of building the foundations of a liberal constitutional order on an empowered polity and on new and expanded forms of democratic expression, the Edsa State paved the way for the return of oligarchic politics. The nation found itself mindlessly returning to the security offered by the familiar.

The excesses of a rentier economy driven by elite politics not only constrained economic growth, it also aggravated mass poverty. More and more poor people were excluded from the circuits of the nation's life. The accumulation of the grievances of the poor in the mid-'90s prepared the way for the emergence of Joseph Estrada, the movie actor who championed the cause of the underprivileged in countless movie roles.

The presidential election of 1998 became the battleground for the revolt of the poor. Instead of feeding the underground communist insurgency, the resentments bred by mass poverty were harvested by a movie icon who felt comfortable in the world of patronage politics. The election of Estrada on the basis of the campaign line "*Erap para sa mahirap*" (Erap for the poor) drove home the powerful message of social solidarity: That we cannot have a country that consigns the majority of its citizens to a life of degradation and hopelessness.

Soon enough, however, Erap's presidency became synonymous with corruption, profligacy, and misgovernance. While these sins were nothing new in the nation's political life, the revulsion they generated reinforced the modernist impulse of good governance. A young and better educated middle class thought they deserved better and more competent leaders. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's rise to the presidency in 2001, as a result of Edsa II, was fueled by this ideal. She exuded intelligence, youthful exuberance and a modern grasp of the challenges of a global age.

As it turned out, all of that was a veneer for what was still basically a pre-modern presidency. Rather than strengthen governmental institutions and insulate them from vested interests, Ms Arroyo methodically corrupted and made them the instruments of her own personal ambition. What she has done to the Armed Forces of the Philippines probably best exemplifies this. The partisan role that key officers of the AFP were made to play in the 2004 election is unprecedented in its magnitude. Instead of overseeing the orderliness and fairness of the election, these military and police officials were deployed to make sure the election returns would go Ms Arroyo's way. This is fairly well known within AFP circles. This is also what the Garci tapes reveal. All the key players have been abundantly rewarded with promotions and cushy positions.

Development, freedom, social justice, and good governance—together, these four ideals constitute our modern utopia. That our past leaders have routinely betrayed them does not diminish their brilliance. The light they cast may yet help us find our way through these confusing times.

* * *

Comments to public.lives@gmail.com

Shine on, Baby

REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE

Patricia Evangelista

BOY AND GIRL ARE BEST FRIENDS. BOY TEASES; GIRL nags. They grew up together. They can finish each other's sentences. They have no qualms at sharing hotel rooms. Boy is in love with Girl.

Girl is in love with The Other Guy, and spends hours mooning over his picture. Boy laughs at the obsession. Then The Other Guy notices Girl. They hit it off.

Boy is supportive, but seething inside. Girl is confused—she should be happy with The Other Guy, but something is missing. Boy confesses his love, then walks away. In a grand moment of revelation, she realizes she's in love with Boy. She is torn.

The Other Guy does all in his power to make her happy. She realizes it is impossible. She says goodbye. The Other Guy is hurt and angry, but realizes he never stood a chance.

Girl leaves The Other Guy but is afraid Boy has gotten over her. She finds him waiting. There are blurted confessions, a thousand if-onlys, and a soft kiss under a ceiling of stars.

"I-fell-in-love-with-my-best-friend-and-she/he's-in-love-with-someone-else" is one of the oldest plots in a very much abused book, right up there with "We-come-from-two-different-worlds and Ugly-duckling-turns-swan." Of course, a clichéd plot doesn't automatically a bad story make, as "Pretty Woman" and "My Fair Lady" have proven. Hollywood has "My Best Friend's Wedding" and "Someone Like You" for the best-friend angle. The love triangle appears in a thousand other movies.

In recent Philippine cinema, Claudine Barretto holds the record for the heart repeatedly torn asunder. She's been fought over by Rico Yan and Dominic Ochoa, Rico Yan and Diether Ocampo, Diether Ocampo and Jericho Rosales, and just recently by Aga Muhlach and John Lloyd Cruz. Judy Ann Santos is no slouch—she's been caught between Piolo Pascual and Leandro Muñoz , then is again plagued with doubts about her relationship with JC Cuadrado after meeting a longer-haired, albeit much the same Piolo Pascual in the recent "Don't Give up On Us."

My theory is that somewhere in the sacred sanctums of movie moguls, there's a guy in a suit shooting darts at random at actors' names. This year, there are three new holes on the dartboard, bringing us the newest triangle on the silver screen. In "Close to You," Bea Alonzo is torn between "a habit and a dream"—John Lloyd Cruz and Sam Milby respectively.

Poor, sad girl. If I were only so lucky.

I managed to make it to the last full show last Monday. I had my backpack checked (on the off-chance I'd forgotten to leave my back-up explosives and caliber .45 pistol at home). The guard was more interested in my bag of takeout. He passed over the burger, the chicken sandwich and the four pies when he slapped his hand over my *palabok* special. I was gearing up to fight for my God-given right to greasy calories when he pointed at the new "No sign" (no chicken, no sauces, no pasta inside the theater). So naturally I batted my eyelashes, flipped my hair, and smiled. (For the sake of my ego, I will insist the guard was gay.) Needless to say, I wasn't in "happy mode" when I finally trudged into the theater.

It took only a couple of minutes before I was giggling in my seat. The plot is a given, this time: Marian (Bea) is Manuel's (John Lloyd) best friend. She's long been obsessed with popular band Orion's lead singer—Lance (Sam) of the sparkling eyes and brilliant smile. Lance comes to the Philippines on a publicity tour, and Marian chases him around the country with the reluctant Manuel in tow.

The script is great, but it is the actors who really carry off the movie. I'd like to state for the record that John Lloyd Cruz has just taken over Johnny Depp's throne in my heart. What could have been a forgettable role became the charming, endearing performance of an incredible actor. In Dumaguete, he gleefully strips off his shirt and bounces shrieking into the pool. The combination of disbelief, reluctant admiration, irritation and self-consciousness on his face when he sees the rippling-muscled, golden-skinned freak that is Sam Milby is one for the books, along with the muttered "*Guwapo mo, pare*" (or something like that) under his breath.

Bea Alonzo plays the nagging—dangerously close to annoying—best friend but manages to keep on track and be appealing. Sam Milby's character is not as developed as John Lloyd's—Lance, in one word, is nice—but he makes it very easy to believe why he's supposed to be the hottest talent to hold a guitar. It's a movie that makes you involved. As one of my friends said, it forces you into Marian's dilemma and the choice between two unbelievably likable men. The fact that my friend is a guy and straight must mean the movie has incredible powers—or it is that I know very, very little about my friends.

I have one problem with the plot. Marian chases Lance all over the country, from Davao to Dumaguete, and joins the hordes of fans at every publicity event. In most cultures around the world, that would be stalker behavior. But Lance, when Marian finally gets him to notice her, arranges a date, waits for her with a rose in his hand and presents her to his mother on the strength of a long-ago grade-school incident—where he chased away bullies plaguing her. Besides, the on-screen Lance is supposed to be a much-adored star whose face can launch a thousand female fantasies—why is Marian so different from the thousand other fans throwing themselves at his feet?

Of course, I'm willing to give the movie the benefit of the doubt. I hear that John Lloyd Cruz is in Cebu, and I'm still in the process of finagling his hotel information. I've got his movie credits memorized, my luggage packed and my plane ticket booked. When I get there, I expect to be presented to his mother.

Johnny dear, I prefer tulips.

* * *

E-mail the author at pat.evangelista@gmail.com

THEY SAID

Source of strength

"He will give you the means with which to cope with the challenge if only you believe."

—Southern Leyte Gov. Rosette Lerias on drawing strength from God amid the tragedy that struck her province

All backlash

"The government got the backlash without sending the chill."

—Rep. Joey Salceda, reacting to the government crackdown on media during the state of national emergency

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to
jsarmiento@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

THE SCIENCE OF STAMPEDE

THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION RECOMMENDED ON MARCH 8 THE filing of criminal charges against 17 people it considered responsible for the Feb. 4 stampede during the first anniversary of the "Wowowee" game show that killed 71 people and injured 957 others.

Twelve officers and employees of ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. and five people outside the network are facing charges of "reckless imprudence resulting in multiple homicide and multiple injuries."

Most of the victims were elderly women from poor communities who had wanted to get into the PhilSports Arena (formerly Ultra) in Pasig City, hoping to win prizes—P1 million in cash, house and lot, two tricycles, two taxis and one jeepney.

Alarmed at the huge turn out of fans, many of whom had camped out at the PhilSports gates for days, "Wowowee" personnel decided to give out 40 raffle tickets promising P200,000 worth of cash prizes to make the non-winning fans go home.

The plan did not work. A stampede ensued after the gate on Captain Javier Street was closed at 6 a.m.

ABS-CBN lacked "a clear-cut, comprehensive security plan, which included crowd control and contingency plans," the NBI said.

The "Wowowee " tragedy is eerily similar to the stampede that claimed the lives of 96 football fans in Sheffield, England in 1989. (*See list.*)

Knowing something about the science of stampede could have helped ABS-CBN save lives.

'Wowowee' a disaster waiting to happen

By Dr. Giovanni Tapang

NARROW EXITS, LACK OF COORdination, absence of exit plans, and pedestrian movement in multiple directions combined with a strong desire to reach an objective due to poverty are recipes for panic-induced stampede.

The collective motion of many similar objects interacting in a well-defined manner results in a variety of phenomena such as jamming in traffic and pedestrians, aggregate behavior in bacteria, and cluster formation.

An accurate knowledge of collective motion of confined pedestrians can provide insights into the formulation of effective strategies for managing crowd movement in a confined space and for designing efficient passageways.

Of mice and men

In simulation and actual experimental studies with mice, we have demonstrated that several factors contribute to panic-induced clogging or arching at exits or passageways.

Arching is the slowdown (or jamming) due to a significant reduction in the number of people who can exit from a confined area. The number of people is significant although clogging can occur even in rooms with 30 people given the right conditions.

One factor is the width and design of the passageway. Two gates positioned far enough from each other can minimize the size of the arches. However, doubling the number of gates does not necessarily double the throughput because of disruptive interference of paths.

This is when pedestrians cross each other's path while entering, as when observed when people try to enter a jeepney at the same time. Due to the same phenomena, doubling the width of the door does not automatically double the number of people passing through.

In the PhilSports Arena (formerly Ultra) tragedy, extra gates and strong guided railings that facilitate queuing could have increased the throughput near the entrances and lessened the size of the arching.

Herding

Another factor is the herding phenomenon. Pedestrians tend to follow their nearest neighbor if they are not provided with a clear entrance and exit plan.

This phenomena was observed in experiments and in disasters where other exits were not used in panic situations and clogging occurred only at the main gates.

Exits are pointed out in aircraft and signs are placed in cinemas to address this effect. In the "Wowowee" tragedy, the people apparently were not given a clear plan on how to enter or exit the PhilSports Arena, thus contributing to rapid clogging at the gate.

'Faster-is-slower' effect

The biggest factor is the amount of panic or drive to reach the exit. The study has shown that increasing the "panic parameter" decreases the number of those who can pass through the passageway. The higher the drive to reach the exit, the lower the throughput you will have. This is the so-called "faster-is-slower" effect observed in simulations, derived from analytic equations and shown in experiments.

It is obvious that those who came to "Wowowee" were hoping to get big cash prizes at stake in the show at this time of high unemployment, sinking wages, and rising costs of commodities and services due to the expanded value-added tax and oil price hikes. This push of poverty was the final element in the recipe leading to the tragedy.

It could have been avoided if there were good planning and coordination and if there were none of the desperation of the people due to hard times.

Sources:

1. "Streaming, disruptive interference and power-law behavior in the exit dynamics of confined pedestrians." Gay Jane Peréz, Giovanni Tapang, May Lim and Caesar Saloma. Physica A 312 (2002) pp. 609 - 618.

2. "Self-organized queuing and scale-free behavior in real escape panic." Caesar Saloma, Gay Jane Perez, Giovanni Tapang, May Lim, and Cynthia Palmes-Saloma, PNAS USA, Vol. 100, pp. 11947-11952 (2003).

(Tapang, the national chair of the Samahan ng Nagtataguyod ng Agham at Teknolohiya para sa Sambayanan, is assistant professor at the National Institute of Physics, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City. E-mail the author at gtapang@nip.upd.edu.ph)

STAMPEDE

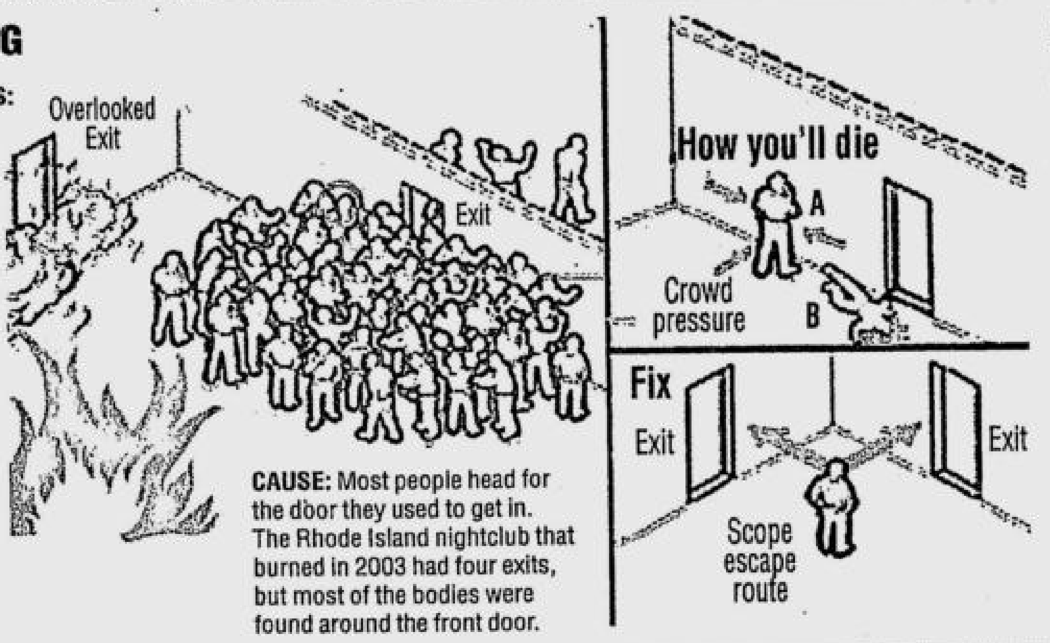
THE MADNESS OF CROWDS

Four ways frightened mobs flee from danger—and how you'll die if you don't escape

Set your emotional dial, for a moment, to panic: Someone shouts "Fire!" in a crowded theater. Your hands tremble, your pulse races, a cold sweat spreads across your back. You're trapped with hundreds of others. What would you do to escape? Scientists and architects think they know. They have long had mathematical models that predict crowd behavior, but testing was always a problem. Until recently. In an article in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences [of the United States], researchers simulated a mass exodus by dropping mice into a tub of water. The models held up. The mice? Don't ask.

1. HERDING

WHAT HAPPENS: Disaster gives voice to your inner sheep; people follow a crowd to an open door even if other exits are clog-free.



CAUSE: Most people head for the door they used to get in. The Rhode Island nightclub that burned in 2003 had four exits, but most of the bodies were found around the front door.

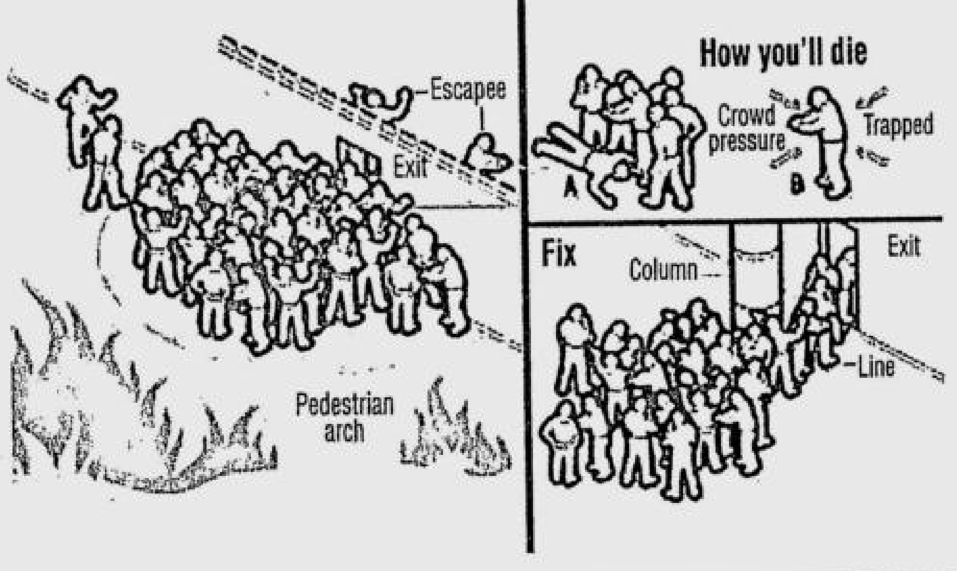
HOW YOU'LL DIE: A fleeing crowd pushes as one; the resulting pressure is like a back-walk massage from a sumo wrestler. Ribs crack, organs squish, and the air squirts out of your lungs like ketchup from a foil packet.

THE FIX: Scope out a couple alternate escape routes before disaster strikes—why do you think the nice flight attendant shows you the exits on an airplane?

2. PEDESTRIAN ARCH FORMATION

WHAT HAPPENS: It's the Three Stooges effect: The door is wide enough for only one, but everyone wants to be first. More stooges give you a semicircle of gridlock as everyone seeks the shortest straight-line vector to the exit.

CAUSE: People are sticky—they wedge into the area in front of the doorway like a cork. The exit clogs, with intermittent bursts of escapees when force exceeds friction.



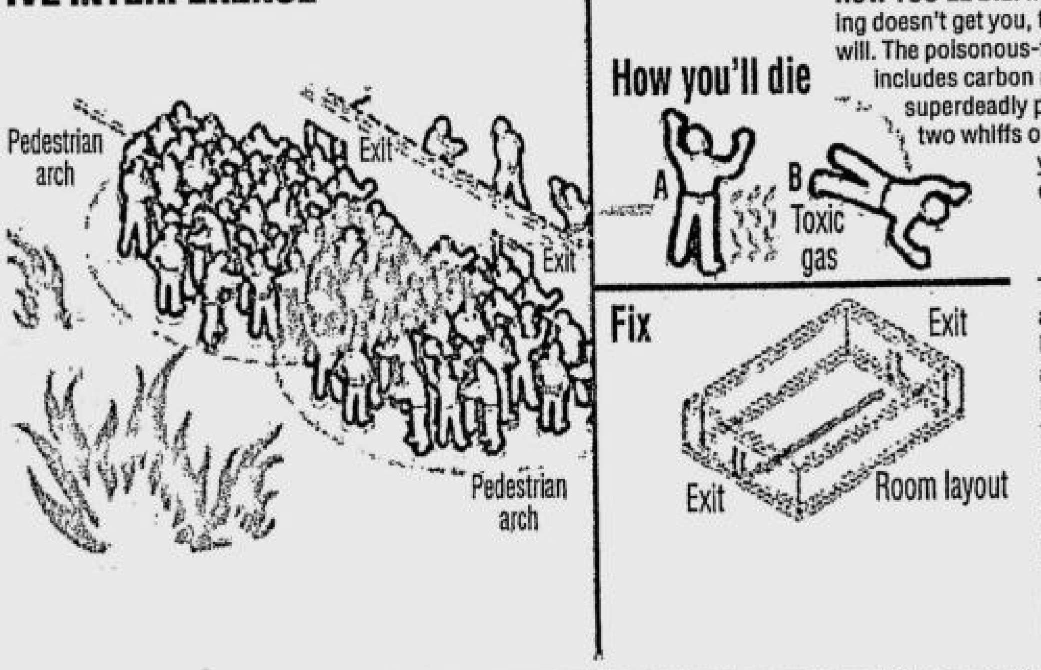
HOW YOU'LL DIE: Trapped behind injured neighbors or a nitwit who insists others go first, you'll be jostled in place like a grain of sand in an hourglass.

THE FIX: A column a few feet in front of the exit can help break up an arch, splitting the jam into smoothly flowing streams. Being first in line helps, too. Lingering near the exits during a show isn't just cool, it can save your life.

3. DISRUPTIVE INTERFERENCE

WHAT HAPPENS: Two doors, two pedestrian arches—if they overlap, chaos ensues at the junction

CAUSE: Your eyes are on the exit, not the bodies in front of you.



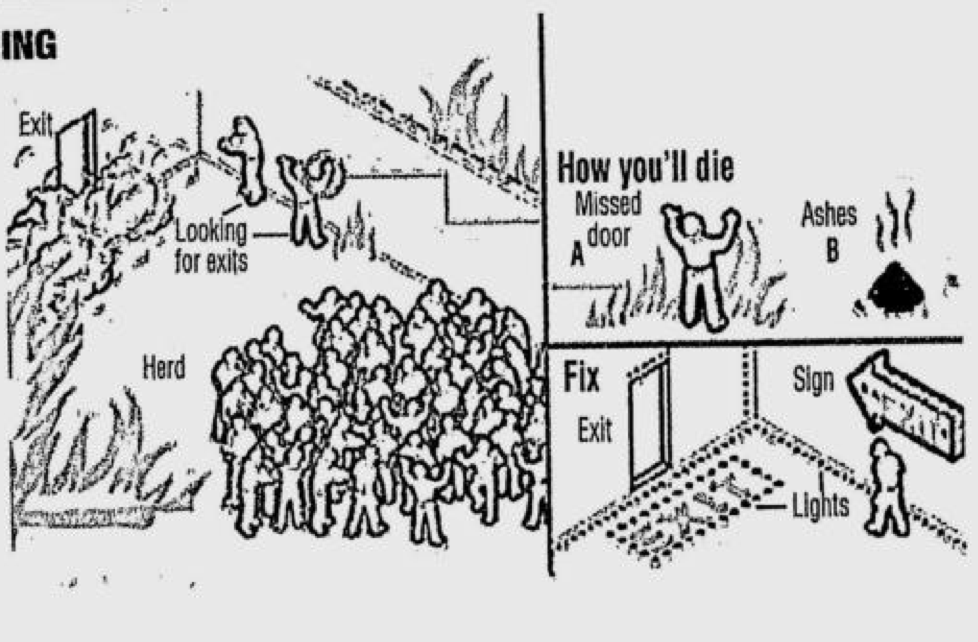
HOW YOU'LL DIE: In a fire, if the crushing doesn't get you, toxic gases probably will. The poisonous-fume hit parade includes carbon monoxide and superdeadly phosgene. "One or two whiffs of phosgene and you're down," says one firefighter.

THE FIX: Two doors are better than one, but arches can spread all the way across narrow rooms. Architects should put doors at opposite ends of the room. And if you're in the scrum, try not to freak out. The exit throughput rate drops as the panic level climbs.

4. WALL SEEKING

WHAT HAPPENS: Some of the herd peel off on their own; they end up creeping along the edges of the room.

CAUSE: Rugged individualists know that in the midst of a panic, the mob is the worst place to be. They also know that walls are inevitably interrupted by exits.



HOW YOU'LL DIE: Scared and alone. If you miss the exit or go the wrong way along the perimeter, whatever you're running from will get you. If too many individualists have the same plan, you'll bump into them, slowing your escape.

THE FIX: Better exit indicators—bright, flashing lights at exits and along floors; public address systems; and Klaxons [loud horns for warning people].

SOURCE: WIRED, JANUARY 2004

TOP 13 DEADLY STAMPEDES since 1988

(By number of casualties)

1,426

- **July 2, 1990:** Mecca, Saudi Arabia. The pilgrims, many of them Malaysians, Indonesians and Pakistanis, were killed of asphyxiation in an overcrowded pedestrian tunnel leading to holy sites.

1,000

- **Aug. 31, 2005:** Baghdad, Iraq. More than a thousand pilgrims were trampled to death or drowned after panic broke out on a bridge over the Tigris River, sparked by a rumor that two suicide bombers were among them.

364

- **Jan. 12, 2006:** Mina, Saudi Arabia. At least 364 people were killed during the hajj (pilgrimage).

340

- **April 15, 1997:** Mina, Saudi Arabia. Fires driven by high winds tear through a sprawling, overcrowded tent city, trapping and killing more than 340 pilgrims and injuring 1,500. Aid workers and diplomats said the death toll was at least 500.

270

- **May 24, 1994:** Mina, Saudi Arabia. The pilgrims were killed as crowds surged forward during the "Stoning of Satan" ritual in Mina, the desert plain outside Mecca. Authorities blamed the record numbers of pilgrims attending the hajj.

257

- **Jan. 25, 2005:** Satara, India. They were killed during a Hindu pilgrimage in the district south of Bombay.

251

- **Feb. 1, 2004:** Mina, Saudi Arabia. Death came during the hajj.

150

- **Aug. 13, 1994:** Brazzaville, Congo. At least 150 people, mostly children, were trampled to death or suffocated following an evangelical session in a church.

126

- **May 9, 2001:** Accra, Ghana. They were killed in the capital city following a football match.

118

- **April 9, 1998:** Mina, Saudi Arabia. At least 118 pilgrims died and more than 180 were injured during the "Stoning of Satan" ritual. The pilgrims, mostly from Indonesia and Malaysia, died when the parapet of a bridge gave way.

100

- **March 12, 1988:** Kathmandu, Nepal. More than a hundred people were killed and 300 injured during a football match in the National Stadium. The tragedy occurred when spectators rushed to find shelter from a powerful hailstorm, but found the doors locked.

96

- **April 15, 1989:** Sheffield, England. The Liverpool supporters were crushed to death and around 300 injured at the Hillsborough Stadium during the semi-final of the FA Cup between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest. Police had opened the doors at one entrance to allow around 2,000 people without tickets to enter the stadium, crushing others in the stands.

90

- **Oct. 16, 1996:** Guatemala City, Guatemala. Some 90 people were killed and 150 injured at the Mateo Flores Stadium during a World Cup qualifying match between Guatemala and Costa Rica. The stadium was built to accommodate 45,000 people, but held around 60,000.

SOURCE: AFP

E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

INQUIRER Mindanao

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Water project checks 'lumad' child deaths

TEDURAY women and their children in the remote village of Saniag in Ampatuan, Maguindanao perform a thanksgiving dance to celebrate the bountiful harvest of a livelihood they have been busy with. The traditional dance is performed after a day's work of harvesting the crops. EDWIN O. FERNANDEZ

By Edwin O. Fernandez
Ampatuan, Maguindanao

FOR A LONG TIME, SOME 200 TEDURAY, Manobo and Maguindanaon families in the mountain village of Saniag in Ampatuan, Maguindanao had drawn water for drinking from the Cauran River, as well as fished for food on their tables.

Little did they know that what they had regarded as a source of life was also a scourge to the community.

Many people would not believe that the river also brought diseases and, worse, death.

"Many would not believe that Cauran had been killing children," said Ungga Anggay, chair of the Saniag Teduray, Manobo Ancestral Domain Claimant Organization (Stemadco).

In 2002, Anggay, 49, found it difficult to convince his constituents to help install a potable water system from two springs. The project, he said, was the "cure" to the diseases that had long been disturbing the villagers.

Since the water system, costing P454,000, was completed late last year, the incidence of water-borne diseases in the community dropped significantly, from an average of 10 cases every month to two.

"Before the project was established, the occurrence of diarrhea and amoebiasis had been frequent," said Joel Dizon, monitoring officer of the Cotabato City-based Kadtuntaya Foundation Inc. (KFI).

Kadtuntaya and Stemadco jointly put up the potable water project with the assistance of the Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP). The funds came from the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Project, through the PBSP.

Salido Panalon, 52, a member of the six-member project monitoring team, said in the vernacular: "The morbidity and mortality rates were so alarming that we had to immediately source out funds if we were to stop the deaths of children."

The project involved the construction of two water impounding units designed to accumulate enough pressure to supply two reservoirs that distribute water to 11 clustered communities.

Water was supplied by two natural springs uphill and 3.5 km from the community, said Panalon, a Maguindanaon resident of the village who worked with the KFI when construction was then underway.

Now, safe and clean drinking water is enjoyed by about 200 families, Anggay said. In each cluster community, 18 to 24 families share a faucet. The majority of the beneficiaries are Teduray natives; the rest are Manobo, Ilonggo, Ilocano and Maguindanaon peoples.

"We are not claiming there are no more water-borne diseases in Saniag, but we are very proud to say that over the past two years, this water system project has already saved at least 20 lives," Anggay said.

Before the NGOs and the PBSP identified the area as a project beneficiary, the villagers had been drawing drinking water from foot-deep shallow wells dug along the banks of Cauran River.

Among their common complaints, aside from diarrhea and amoebiasis, were skin allergies and irritations.

"We refused to believe then that the diarrhea and vomiting commonly experienced by the children and the aged were caused by the water," Anggay said. "But when this project was completed, statistics glaringly proved us wrong."

The villagers pay P5 a month for the project's "wear and tear" and help in the maintenance and cleanliness of the water sources.

With water already available, the "lumad" women formed a livelihood group called the Umfongay de Libon Tagna Tao d'be Saniag g'ne (Ultas), a Teduray phrase meaning "Organization of Lumad Women in Barangay Saniag."

"Because of the potable water system project, we did not only prevent more children from dying but it (project) also made household chores so easy and fast for us that we have enough time to discuss how we could help improve our welfare and that of the community," said Sally Bansigan, 27, a mother of three.

Ultas is implementing a "food-for-work" gardening project on a hectare of land, tapping irrigation water from pipes to their vegetable garden. Each member earns at least P800 a month from the produce.

Bak2bak: 'Babuyan Island' and 'Isa Pang Kawing'

By Christine F. Godinez-Ortega
Iligan City

PLAY REVIEW

SEXUAL POLITICS AND SCHEMES BY TWO women on how to survive were some of the major themes in the Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology's (MSU-IIT) resident theater company, Integrated Performing Arts Guild's (Ipag) production of Bak2bak.

The two plays by two of MSU-IIT's resident playwrights, Steven Patrick C. Fernandez and German V. Gervacio were a joint venture between Ipag and the MSU-IIT AB English Dramatics & Stagecraft class.

Carlos, convincingly played by Orwell Theodore Obach in Gervacio's "Babuyan Island" drew attention to one movie writer's struggle to write while the movie was on a location shoot in the Batanes Islands.

The set filled with all the clichés of the writer's room: A typewriter beside a cassette player, one decrepit table, an old chair, a garbage can of crumpled pieces of paper spilling over the floor, an ice bucket crammed with canned beer, an opened suitcase, a folding bed and a dead cockroach beside it.

Innuendos

The play opens with the writer typing away when his mobile phone rings and is told his mother was being rushed to a hospital. The play turns exciting when the movie starlet, Toni (played by Phoebe Gayanelo alternating with Pricybelle Aguilar) steps into the writer's shack to engage Carlos in a mind game replete with sexual innuendoes of borrowed dialog and titles from the movies that paralleled their own lives.

Conversations rise and fall as Toni opens her heart, then, suddenly, punctuates all this with kisses on the lips of the indifferent, I've-seen-everything-and-done-everything Carlos.

For all the sexual dialog and the flirtations of a shabbily dressed and nervous actress around a spread out folding bed, the expected bang finally happens when Toni, pregnant by her pervert lover of a movie director shoots the director.

The shooting is done offstage, however, and so much for Fernandez's classicist background, the audience learns about the shooting when a bloodied Toni reappears on stage seeking comfort from Carlos.

Sexual politics

The next play, "Isa Pang Kawing," a revision of Fernandez's serious play, "Kawing" (Maranao-Maguindanao for marriage) explores sexual politics between scions of politically powerful families married for political expediency. Fernandez's play like Gervacio's relies on quick, well-paced dialog between two persons trapped in a loveless match.

The groom, a lawyer who has ambitions to run for town mayor in the next elections, learns his bride is three months pregnant by her previous boyfriend. If such happens in real life given the couple's tribal affiliations, the bride has to be killed before family honor is restored.

But the play offers a twist. Definitely sympathetic to a woman's plight, Fernandez's woman character, Aya, in "Isa Pang Kawing" proves to be more cunning and fearless than the groom. Aware of tribal laws herself, she blackmails her husband to force him to accept her pregnancy.

Whatever bravado the groom possesses at first in dropping his pants and his vain attempts to pin his bride on the bed in his floral HerBench briefs, played sensitively and effectively by Hobart Savior, an appreciative audience immediately grasps the tight situation.

The groom goes jelly before the audience when his photos with his gay lover are shown to him by his bride played by Lara Fatima Maglinao alternating with Xyza Pyr Consul.

In this play, the gun fails to go off on stage or off stage, all right, because Fernandez had successfully set its irony in high relief.

If Gervacio's dialog in "Babuyan Island" is teasing and painful, Fernandez's is frank and full of ironies. The exchanges between the two sets of characters peak in "Isa Pang Kawing" because its ending is more definite for an audience aware of the play's cultural implications with what new and old stories they must have heard about "*gi-buya*" couples (couples in arranged marriages).

Interestingly, both plays are about women who solve their problems in the way they know how, like aiming for a man's balls and pulling the trigger. The women in both plays triumph over their relationships with men who had the tendencies to blur myth and reality.

WOMEN triumph in the play "Babuyan Island" by German V. Gervacio. CONTRIBUTED BY IPAG

UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS
España, Manila
FACULTY OF CIVIL LAW

2006 LAW ENTRANCE EXAMINATION *(LEE)*

The applicant must be a holder of a Bachelor of Arts or Science degree, or a candidate for graduation for such degree by March 2006, and must have earned the required units in English, Social Sciences and Mathematics.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. College **Transcript of Scholastic Records.** However, if the applicant is graduating on March 2006, an official copy of temporary transcript containing college records from first year up to the first semester of the fourth year should be submitted instead;
2. **Two (2) 2½" x 2½" colored ID pictures;**
3. **Two (2) Certificates of Good Moral Character with school seal:**
   a. For UST graduates, one of the certificates should come from OSA and one from the Dean of the previous college;
   b. For non-UST graduates, one from the Guidance office or its equivalent and one from the Dean of previous college;
   c. Applicants who are working must submit an additional Certificate of Good Moral Character issued by the current employer.
4. **Application and Testing fee;** and
5. **Duly accomplished application forms.** The forms will be issued by the Dean's office only upon submission of **ALL THE REQUIREMENTS.**

NOTE:
ALL requirements must be submitted one (1) week before the examination day

APPLICATION SCHEDULE:
Monday thru Friday (9-12 NN; 1-4 PM); Office of the Dean

EXAMINATION SCHEDULES:
8-12 AM - March 12, 2006 and April 2 & 30, 2006

VENUE OF EXAMINATION:
Reading Room of the Faculty of Civil Law, Ground Floor, UST Main Building.

FOR INQUIRIES:
SEE THE DEAN'S OFFICE OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE at www.ust.edu.ph, click on academics or call 731-4027 or 7313101 local 8225.

The world demands. We provide.

Global City Innovative College
The Fort, Bonifacio Global City
Call us at 757-5588 up to 91
Or visit www.gcic.ph

Classes begin June 13, 2006!

We at GCIC know what you need to be ready for the challenges of the world. We offer programs that prepare you for local and international examinations, a formidable faculty, world-class facilities, a prime location and surprisingly affordable tuition. Visit our campus or check our website. You'll be glad you did.

BS Nursing • BSBA Major in Business Management • Caregiver • Medical Transcription • BS Accountancy
BS Education (Elementary, Secondary, Special Education & Early Childhood Education)

A14 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2006

Across the NATION

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
2nd Floor, Los Baños Bldg.
Cor. Peñaranda and Aguinaldo Sts.
Legazpi City
Telefax No. (052) 480-4182
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) *Assistant Editor* **Tony Bergonia**

Bulacan execs condemn Left slayings

CITY OF MALOLOS—BULACAN GOV. JOSEFINA de la Cruz on Saturday denied taking a posture of silence over the series of political killings in the province, the latest of which involved a Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) leader.

De la Cruz said provincial board members on March 6 approved a resolution condemning the series of slayings even before Bayan Bulacan Chair Crisanto (not Santiago as earlier reported) "Ka Santi" Teodoro was killed on Thursday night.

She said the resolution also asked Bulacan police officials to investigate these cases. Bayan records showed that Teodoro was the 20th leader or member of militant groups murdered in the province since last year.

De la Cruz said the resolution was awaiting the approval of Vice Gov. Aurelio Plamenco, the board's presiding officer.

Earlier, Fr. Rolando de Leon, spokesperson of the Alyansa ng Mamamayan para sa Pantaong Karapatan, described Bulacan as "killing fields" of militants due to the series of slayings that he blamed on the military.

Leaders of militant groups in the province also assailed De la Cruz and other provincial and police officials for their supposed silence amid the attacks on political activists.

Jerry Albert Corpuz, an official of the fisherfolk organization Pamalakaya, said De la Cruz should ensure that political activists and members of militant groups in the province get protection from the provincial government.

"De la Cruz is politically obliged and is constitutionally mandated to protect her people, whether they are ordinary people or political activists," he said.

But De la Cruz said she had initiated "successive mediation" among cause-oriented and militant groups, religious organizations, military and police officials.

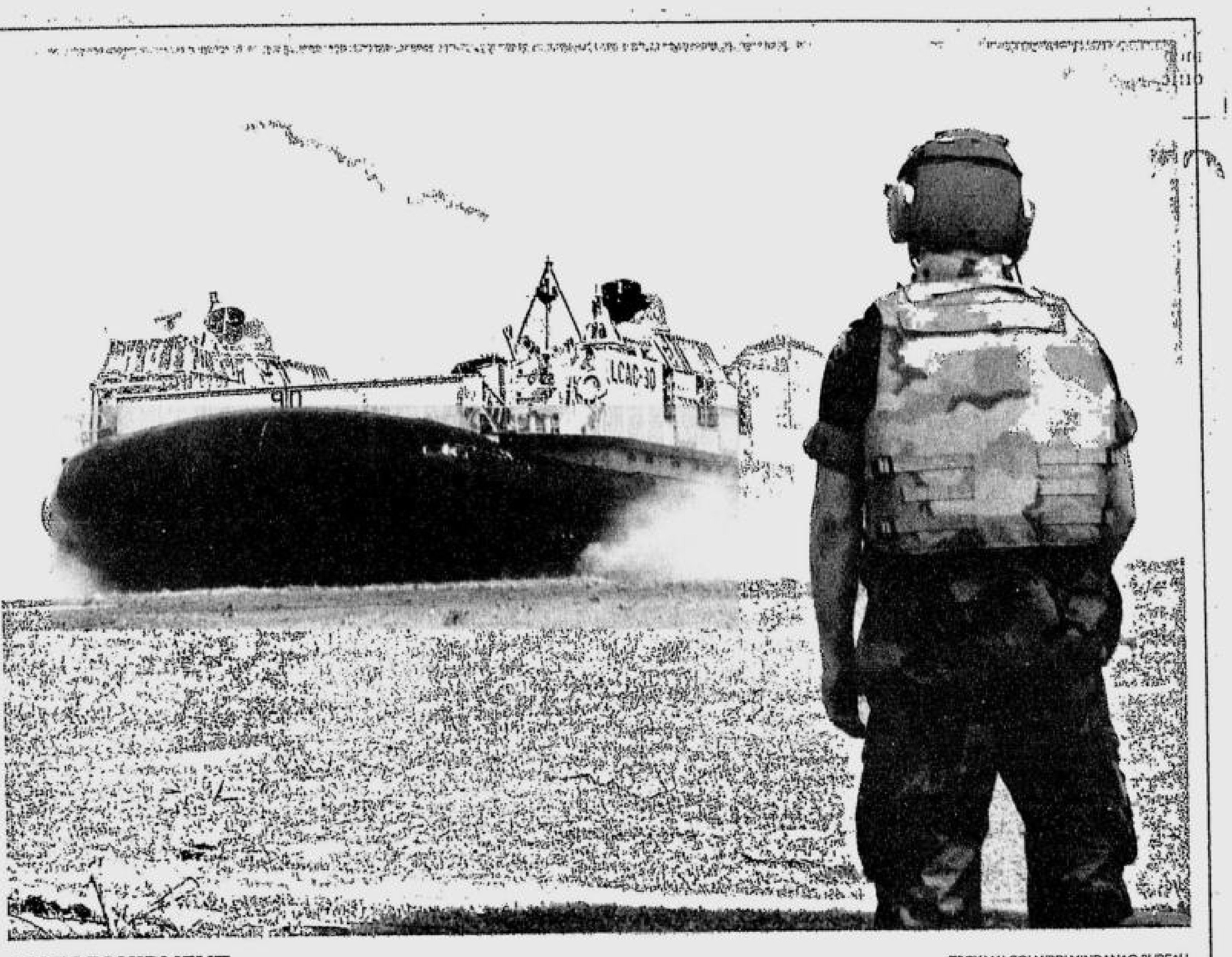
She said in February, she convened the parties to dialogue under the auspices of the regional peace and order council (RPOC), which she co-chairs.

In the RPOC dialog, she said she advised Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan, commander of the Army's 7th Infantry Division, whom militants suspected as behind the killings, to meet with Malolos Bishop Jose Oliveros and talk about the issue.

"I know the Army is blamed but I don't want to make accusations at the moment until there's proof," De la Cruz said.

She said she had instructed Senior Supt. Benedict Michael Fokno, provincial police director, to submit a preliminary report on the murder of Teodoro.

Bayan Central Luzon Chair Roman Polintan said the killings intensified when Palparan assumed command of the 7th ID on Sept. 1 last year. *Tonette Orejas and Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk*



TROY MALCOLM/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

ALIEN EQUIPMENT
A US Navy landing craft air cushion (LCAC), a military equipment alien to the Philippine Armed Forces, arrives at a remote beach in Panamao in Jolo, Sulu during military exercises between Philippine and US soldiers.

UP tests show no mercury in Sorsogon fish

LEGAZPI CITY—THE SANGGUNIANG Panlalawigan of Albay has requested the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) district office here to investigate the cause of the fish scare that gripped the towns of Prieto Diaz, Gubat and Bacon district in Sorsogon.

The request was made following findings that fish in these towns were safe from mercury, contrary to earlier reports that they had been contaminated with mercury.

Tests made by the University of the Philippines-Natural Sciences Research Institute (UP-NSRI), dated March 1, show that water and fish from around Rapu-Rapu Island and Sorsogon are safe for human consumption.

The UP study reinforces the five previous studies of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) that the mercury contamination of Sorsogon fish and waters near Rapu-Rapu as alleged by antimining groups never existed. The allegation scared people from buying fish, resulting in a drastic drop in the income of 5,000 Sorsogon fishermen.

The Albay provincial board said someone should answer for the fish scare, especially since it was found that it was not caused by contamination from the Rapu-Rapu operations of the Lafayette Mining Inc. (LMI).

In a resolution authored by Vice Gov. James Calisin, the board said the second laboratory tests showed a high mercury content in the waters of Sorsogon, which triggered the "fish scare" that fish and marine products were not fit for human consumption.

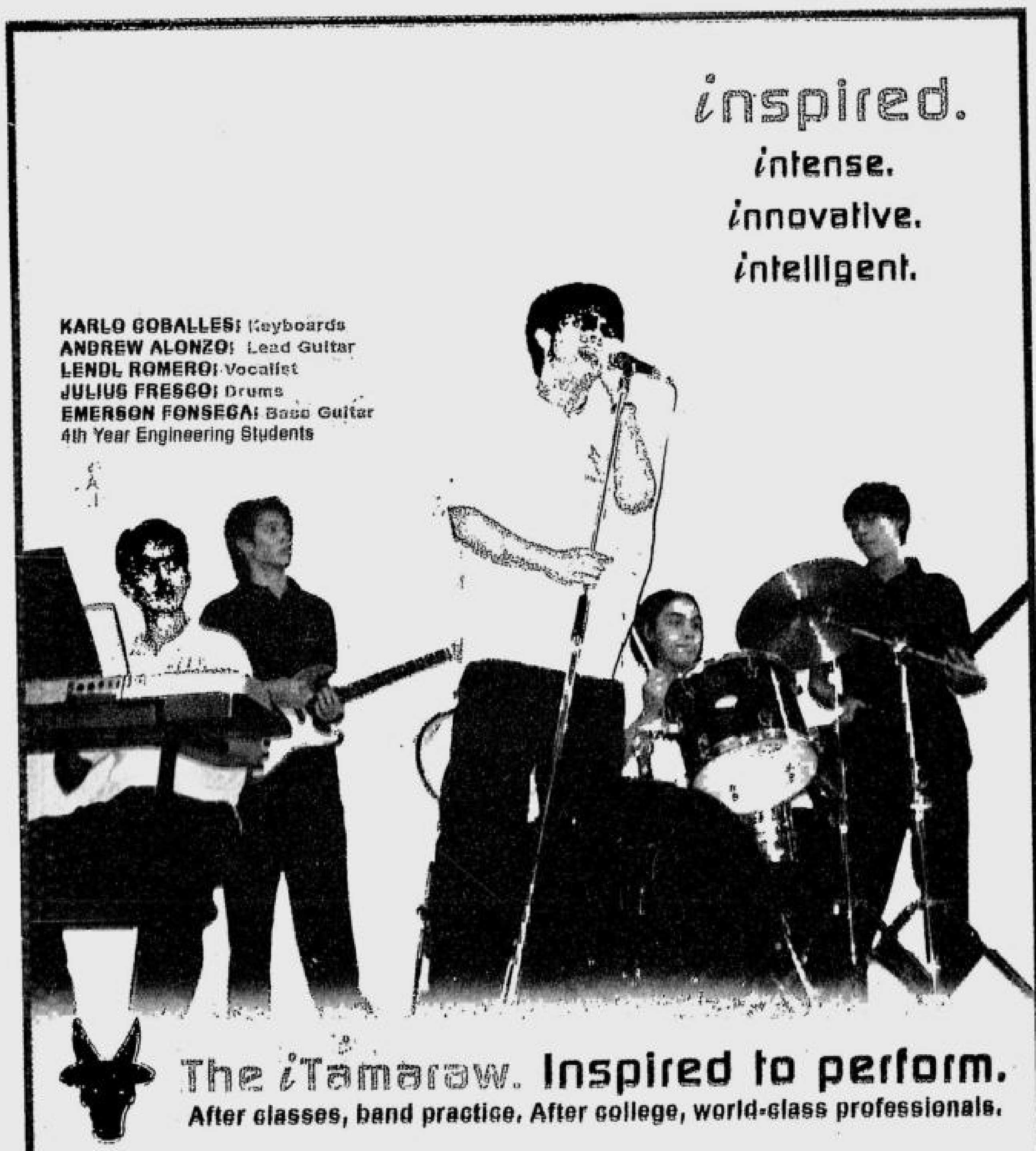
"We need to know who brought the samples (that showed high mercury levels)," Calisin said.

The fish and water samples that were found with high mercury content were reportedly not obtained by BFAR personnel but brought by the local government of Prieto Diaz to the BFAR regional office for the laboratory examinations.

"This drew doubts and suspicion that the fish samples that were brought had been contaminated with mercury," Calisin said.

BFAR's succeeding tests revealed that fish and other aquatic products in the area were safe for human consumption.

In a phone interview, Sorsogon Vice Gov. Antonio Escudero, who is likely to be subjected to the investigation, said he was ready to face and answer the charges being made by the board. *Edgar Alejo, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*



KARLO GOBALLES: Keyboards
ANDREW ALONZO: Lead Guitar
LENDL ROMERO: Vocalist
JULIUS FRESGO: Drums
EMERSON FONSEGA: Bass Guitar
4th Year Engineering Students

The iTamaraw. **Inspired to perform.**
After classes, band practice. After college, world-class professionals.

There is no limit to what inspiration can achieve for an individual. At FEU - East Asia College, we fuel our student's talents by providing the right facilities.

FEU - EAST ASIA COLLEGE
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING • COLLEGE OF COMPUTER STUDIES
Where industry meets academe

Come now and inquire about the early enrollment discount.
FEU-EAG Main Building, FEU Campus, Nicanor Reyes Street, Sampaloc, Manila 1015
Tel. Nos. 736-0015 to 19 / Telefax: 736-0021 or 25 / info@feu-eastasia.edu.ph

THE FEU GROUP
FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY www.feu.edu.ph
FEU - EAST ASIA COLLEGE www.feu-eastasia.edu.ph
FEU FERN COLLEGE www.feu-fern.edu.ph

ROUNDUP

Ilocos Sur dad killed

BANTAY, Ilocos Sur—A councilor of Bantay town was shot and killed by two men at 12:45 p.m. Thursday in Zone 5 here, police said. Councilor Paul Lucero was with his wife Emma, a teacher of Bantay West-Central Elementary School, in their Isuzu Trooper when the two men fired at him, police said. His wife was not hurt. Lucero died while being treated at the Metro Vigan Cooperative Hospital in Bantay. An opposition leader, Lucero was on his third term as a councilor.

Leoncio Balbin Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Raid yields guns

COTABATO CITY—Government troops recovered firearms in a raid on a lair of suspected Pentagon Gang kidnappers in President Quirino town in Sultan Kudarat on Wednesday. Col. Gerry Jalandoni, Army's 604th Infantry Brigade chief, said soldiers belonging to the 75th Infantry Battalion staged the raid at the hideout of Pentagon gang members in the outskirts of Barangay Tinaungan. But the suspects escaped minutes before the raid, leaving two Garand rifles, a Springfield, two homemade pistols and a transceiver radio, he said.

Jeoffrey Maitem, PDI Mindanao Bureau

2 soldiers dead in clash

DAVAO CITY—Communist rebels killed two soldiers and wounded four other government men in separate clashes in Southern Mindanao on Thursday. Col. Antonio Amodia, commander of the 404th Infantry Battalion based in Mawab, Compostela Valley, said two of his men were killed during an encounter with New People's Army (NPA) rebels in Barangay Libudan in Mabini, Compostela Valley. Amodia identified the two slain soldiers as Pfc. Abdul Sarid and Pfc. Almalik Ajuji. At about the same time, Amodia said policemen and soldiers clashed with NPA rebels in Baganga, Davao Oriental. He said two policemen and two soldiers were injured.

Dennis Jay Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Car thief suspect falls

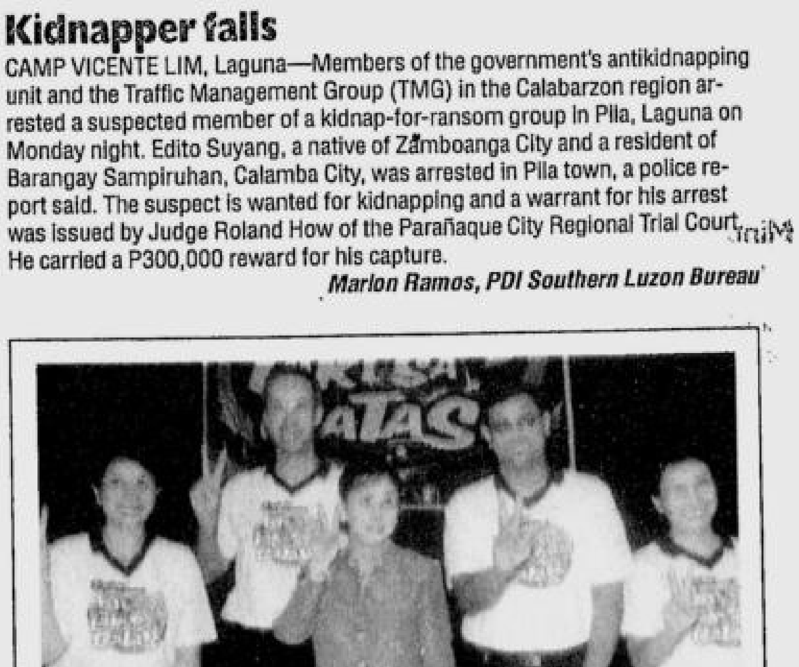
GENERAL SANTOS CITY—Operatives of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) arrested a suspected member of a car theft syndicate operating in General Santos, Sarangani and South Cotabato on Thursday. Teofilo Cardente, a resident of San Isidro village, was arrested in an entrapment operation, said CIDG regional director Senior Supt. Edwin Diocos. He said prior to Cardente's arrest, an informant told the CIDG that there was man selling a motorcycle in San Isidro village. "CIDG operatives proceeded to the area and posed as buyers," he said. They confirmed that the motorcycle that Cardente was selling was the same motorcycle stolen in Polomolok, South Cotabato several days ago.

Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Kidnapper falls

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Members of the government's antikidnapping unit and the Traffic Management Group (TMG) in the Calabarzon region arrested a suspected member of a kidnap-for-ransom group in Pila, Laguna on Monday night. Edito Suyang, a native of Zamboanga City and a resident of Barangay Sampiruhan, Calamba City, was arrested in Pila town, a police report said. The suspect is wanted for kidnapping and a warrant for his arrest was issued by Judge Roland How of the Parañaque City Regional Trial Court. He carried a P300,000 reward for his capture.

Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau



POSTER MAYOR CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Vilma Santos, actress and mayor of Lipa City, launched with Nestlé officials a nationwide milk education program for mothers and primary schoolchildren.

Noli: GMA must address 'Hello Garci' scandal

DE CASTRO: Clear the air

From page A1

wiretapped conversations between Ms Arroyo and then Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano, suggesting cheating had occurred in the 2004 presidential polls.

At the height of the scandal, Ms Arroyo apologized over nationwide TV for what she said was a "lapse in judgment" in phoning an election official, whom she did not identify. She said she merely wanted to protect her votes.

Although the President insisted that she won "fair and square" over opposition standard-bearer Fernando Poe Jr. (since deceased), the scandal led to impeachment complaints being filed against her last year. But her allies in the House managed to quash the three impeachment cases.

Still, questions of legitimacy continued to plague the Arroyo presidency.

Disenchantment

De Castro said he recognized that these questions would constantly be raised by those who were not satisfied with the way the President had addressed the "Hello Garci" scandal.

He also said he understood the disenchantment of a number of military officers and men over reports that their superiors had succumbed to political pressure and were part of the cheating that supposedly marred the 2004 election.

De Castro also endorsed a proposed dialogue between the President and the soldiers as a means of addressing the restiveness in the Armed Forces.

But earlier, certain sectors in the AFP said that for the dialogue to be effective, the President should come clean on the "Hello Garci" issue.

Reminded that Loren Legarda, his political rival, had also accused him of cheating in the vice presidential election, De Castro said the former senator had yet to prove her accusation in her ongoing election protest.

He also pointed out that the Supreme Court, sitting as the Presidential Electoral Tribunal, had yet to rule on the matter.

GMA backs AFP no-amnesty position vs military rebs

THE PATH MOST TAKEN **by President Arroyo these days is the one from her regular roundtable discussion held at the Kalayaan Hall back to her office in the Palace proper. This is the route that allows her to communicate directly with the people.** LYN RILLON.

From page A1

day that the crackdown on suspected coup plotters would inflame the "restiveness" among military officers and men and turn it "into action."

"He's done this before, in warning of bombings in Metro Manila," Defensor said of the senator in an interview with reporters in Malacañang.

"I'm not downplaying his information, but he should have given it to the proper authorities, like [the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces]. I don't think he's helping this way because this is bad for the economy," Defensor said.

Defensor also said Ms Arroyo had given the AFP leadership the "leeway" to do what was necessary to strengthen the organization.

"The [AFP leadership] recognizes that these elements should not be treated with kid gloves," he said, adding:

"Disciplinary action based on their laws should be respected to prevent [coup plots] in the future. If this continues and we leave it alone, it will only get worse. If they are hard on these elements, these adventurists, it is only because they want to professionalize and depoliticize the organization."

Same situation

Defensor said that during the December 1989 coup attempt against the Aquino administration, then AFP chief of staff Biazon chastised an officer for taking part in the plot to overthrow the government.

In Defensor's recollection, Biazon told the officer "that soldiers have no right to do that under the Constitution, and that their duty is to protect the Constitution and the duly mandated authorities."

"If soldiers wanted to exercise their right, Biazon told the officer, they should first resign from the military before speaking out because as long as they are in the AFP they should follow the chain of command," Defensor said.

"We are in the same situation we were in 15 years ago," he said.

Elite forces

Defensor said elite forces in the military were being targeted in the crackdown because they were the groups being wooed by the anti-Arroyo forces.

He said the anti-Arroyo forces knew that if they got the elite forces on their side, "it will show that they have strong backing for military intervention."

Defensor also tried to differentiate between the withdrawal of support from then President Joseph Estrada by then AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Angelo Reyes in 2001 and the planned withdrawal of support from Ms Arroyo by officers behind the purported coup attempt on Feb. 24.

"[Reyes] did not withdraw support on a personal level; his withdrawal had the support of the entire AFP. You cannot just have individuals down the line coming out one by one and withdrawing support," Defensor said.

He recalled a meeting between the Ms Arroyo and the generals wherein she was told that they would "never tolerate treachery" among their ranks.

To stress the point, Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said in a statement: "We have to enforce the rule of law. Amnesty or special treatment is no longer an option for uniformed adventurists engaged in habitual destabilization. Those who undermine the state must stand down or face certain justice."

'They broke the rules'

As many as 26 officers and men belonging to the elite Scout Rangers have reportedly been detained.

The investigation has also reached the elite Marine Corps.

Certain officers and men affected by the crackdown have sought a meeting with Ms Arroyo to explain their side, according to a Malacañang source privy to the request but who spoke on condition that he not be identified.

In Defensor's view, the crackdown is not aimed at making an example of a few officers but will cover all enlisted personnel and soldiers who participated in the supposed coup plot.

"I think everybody who is guilty will be affected, not because politically they do not like the President, but only because they broke the rules," Defensor said.

But he said he expected the crackdown to affect less than one percent of the military.

'Revolutionary' seeds clouds, collects Hello Kitty

From page A1

on trial for the Oakwood mutiny of July 2003. Neither is he a member of the Young Officers Union of the New Generation (YOUNG) that claimed responsibility for the bomb blast in Malacañang on Feb. 20.

Espino, 36, seeds clouds.

He is a rain-making pilot assigned to the 902nd Weather Squadron of the 900th Air Force Weather Group in Villamor Air Base, Pasay City.

10 outstanding soldiers

Recently, he was named one of the 10 Outstanding Philippine Soldiers of 2005 by the Metrobank Foundation for his rain-making missions in Regions 2, 6 and 7 at the height of the El Niño last year. Espino headed cloud-seeding operations which saved agricultural crops worth an estimated P50 million in Region 2.

"Being a rain-making pilot is a task I would take on anytime because it serves a wider purpose," Espino said.

He added that he had no time to gripe or complain, although he would appreciate additional funding "to increase the capability of our squadron, especially during dry spells."

Mind-reading device

Espino's office reflects his "revolutionary" attempt to stand out in the officers corps. His door is stamped with instructional materials for a mind-reading device he developed called the Agile Reader Last Existing Neuro Encoder (Arlene).

The device allows one to calculate a person's age, his or her cell phone number and other pertinent details by asking a few easy questions and writing down the answers as a row of numbers.

"*Pati* crush *pwedeng malaman dito* (I can even find out who a person's crush is)," Espino said.

He also developed a game based on the Bible, as well as games like Videoke Casino, Text Game, Portable Garage, AFP Military Game and Cardboard Calculator.

Hello Kitty

The walls of his office are plastered with praise for Espino and his many inventions. Prominently displayed is one from former Sen. Anna Dominique "Nikki" Coseteng who described Espino as the "Filipino Bill Gates."

But that's not the only reason Espino's office is considered revolutionary. Displayed are various stuffed toys like Hello Kitty, Snoopy, Winnie the Pooh, Kermit the Frog, Tasmanian Devil, Tweety Bird, Brat, Barbie and Monchichi dolls, among others.

He said he had more toys in his home in Lipa City in Batangas.

"One day, my child will inherit these toys," Espino said.

There are also posters of movies and concerts on the walls along with pictures of wrestlers and body-builders. Espino has varied interests, reflected in his choices of books on war, marketing, psychology, romance and technology.

He also has DVD and VCD collections of Disney films, and movies of Jackie Chan and James Bond. There is a wide-screen TV set which Espino said he bought with his earnings from his many inventions.

Still single

Asked if he had been given permission to decorate his office as he pleased, Espino said personal choices are allowed and respected in the Air Force.

According to Espino, his office was an extension of his home and his personality. "*Ang* office, *kahit pa nasa* military service *ka ay* extension *din ng iyong pagkatao, kaya naniniwala ako na mas magandang magtrabaho sa isang opisina na alam mong kumakatawan sa kung sino ka* (The office, even if you're with the military service is an extension of your personality. It's good to work in an office which embodies who you are)," he said.

Espino, who is still single, is on his 12th year in the military service.

He said he believes he represents the true image of the young officers in the AFP: Hardworking, steady and focused.

He explained that he had nothing against the junior officers in the AFP clamoring for changes in the organization.

However, Espino offered this word of advice to his fellow young officers: "If you are going to rebel, don't do it wearing the military uniform. It goes against what the uniform symbolizes."

De La Salle Professional Schools, Inc.
Graduate School of Business

Expert teaching and practical experience needed in today's business environment

Master of Business Administration
- Develops highly capable and socially responsible leaders of national and regional businesses
- Addresses the educational needs of working professionals who seek synergy between their formal course work and its immediate, direct application in their respective industries
- Offers a pragmatic approach to the following areas that students have the option to major in: Agribusiness, Business Management, Culture and Arts Management, Entrepreneurship, Finance, Human Resource Management, Information Technology, International Business, Management Science, Marketing, Property Management and Sports and Recreation Management
- Provides online learning support to enable students to access various learning materials using the WebCT online learning platform. Through an automatic database and diagnostic quizzes, faculty members are able to monitor the progress of each student and give support as needed. We are proud to be the first MBA Program in the Philippines to offer this innovative learning tool.

Master of Science in Computational Finance
- Provides a grounded theoretical and pragmatic approach to using quantitative techniques in finance
- Equips students with the skills required for the CFA® exam

Doctor of Business Administration
- Trains managers and academics in building and disseminating advanced management knowledge
- Integrates normative discussions on ethics and social responsibility with the more profit-oriented role attributed to business

Master of Business Administration-Juris Doctor
- Provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in business and law
- Maximizes the synergy between the two disciplines
- Equips students who seek careers in investment banking, corporate law, taxation and accountancy, venture capital formation, and insurance and securities underwriting, among others

Post-Graduate Diploma in Management
- Prepares participants who want to earn a master's degree in management, business and related fields
- Focuses on management principles, use of management problem-solving and decision-making tools, and acquisition of skills

Post-Graduate Diploma in Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Addresses industry's need for rigorously trained logistics practitioners, in the light of the increasing importance of the logistics function as a competitive tool of a firm.

Entrance exams are on
18 March (Ortigas)
01 April (RCBC)
08 April (Taft)
22 April (Ortigas & Taft)
06 May (RCBC)

Office Hours:
12:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday

For more information, please call:

Taft Campus
- Direct Lines(632) 523-3884, 536-0268
- Trunklines 524-4611 to 19, locs. 122 and 125
- Telefax 536-0267, 523-4295
- Email Vice-Dean Marissa C. Marasigan marasiganm@dlsu.edu.ph

Ortigas Campus at La Salle Greenhills
- Direct Line (632) 727-3760
- Trunklines 721-2000, locs. 376 and 377
- Telefax 727-3759
- Email Vice-Dean Pia T. Manalastas manalastasp@dlsu.edu.ph

RCBC Campus
- Direct Line (632) 753-4619
- Trunklines 753-4611 to 18, locs. 107, 114 and 115
- Fax 753-4618
- Email Vice-Dean Tristan H. Macapanpan macapanpant@dlsu.edu.ph

6/42 Luzon/Vis-Min
9 11 13 14 15 30
₱10,716,408.00
GET THE LATEST LOTTO RESULTS DAILY
Text LOTTO to 299
Open to all SMART subscribers. Only P2.50 per message.

GLOBAL Pinoy

SIX DIGIT
5 4 0 1 4 8
EZ2 15 20
SUERTRES 6 7 7
(In exact order)

OFWs turn Batangas town into La Dolce Vita

For More OFWs' stories, please turn to A Plus/ Page A19, the new PDI section dedicated to our brothers and sisters working all over the globe.

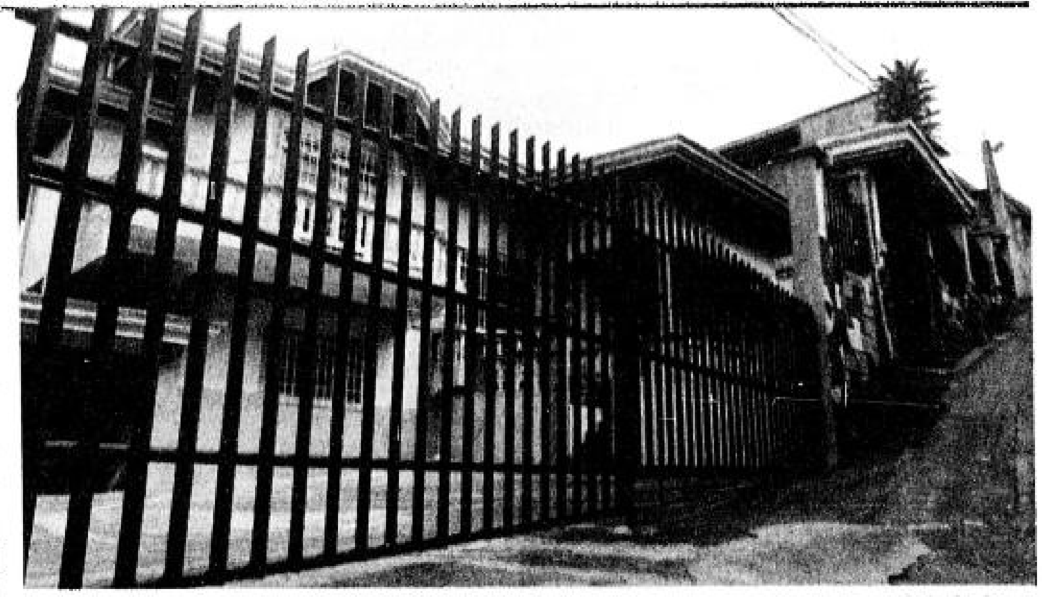
By Volt Contreras

MABINI, BATANGAS—IN just over a decade, a mountain village here has overcome rural poverty and is now fondly known as "Little Italy." And it's not because of any Batangueño spin to pasta dishes, haute couture, or the Mafia.

A hard-earned slice of La Dolce Vita courtesy of overseas Filipino workers has steadily transformed Barangay Pulong Anahao into an unexpected pocket of comfortable, middle-class living.

Slopes where farmers' huts and shacks had long stood are now jagged with pastel-colored homes of glass and concrete, complete with iron gates, garages, and tended lawns.

If previous generations desperately relied on the weather or the season's whim for their livelihood, today's residents coolly keep track of the peso-dollar exchange rate to forecast their next "harvest."



WHERE farmers' huts once stood, affluent homes built by overseas workers, mostly in Italy, now line the streets of Barangay Pulong Anahao in Mabini, Batangas. RAFFY LERMA

The silent heroes—actually heroines—behind Anahao's welcome face-lift are the scores of female OFWs who have found work abroad as domestic helpers, nannies, hospital aides, or factory workers since the '90s.

DH in Milan

The village population of just around 800 almost entirely depend on 251 migrant workers as per latest count, 98 percent of whom are in Italy, according to barangay chair and former municipal police chief Raymundo Magsino.

A "DH" is known here to be capable of earning P60,000 to P80,000 a month in that country, and even more if she's a "part-timer" who could serve up to three employers in shifts per day, the official said.

Such incomes were once unheard of here unless one was a big-time businessman or landlord, back in those years when "life was so hard," said Magsino, 59.

"The men raised crops like rice or corn, engage in *kaingin* (slash-and-burn farming), or work as farm hands in nearby towns or in (the neighboring province of) Mindoro," he recalled. "The women usually find work as (home-based) embroiders."

The OFW phenomenon has actually reached the village in two waves, the first being the recruitment boom for Middle East oil workers in the '70s.

Magsino noted, however, that just about 10 men from Anahao got hired then and the termination of their contracts after a few years made their economic impact on the village comparatively short-lived.

But by the early '90s, a new and bigger door has opened—this time especially for the women.

Marina Dolor, a jobless commerce graduate from a college in Batangas "took the chance (*nakipagsapalaran*)" and became the first Italy-bound "DH" from the village, Magsino recounted.

Dolor is now based in Milan and is married to an Italian. Gradually she was able to renovate her parents' home here, and helped her six sib

OFWS TURN/ A19

THE OFW AT A GLANCE

FROM A FEW THOUSANDS TO MORE than five million. This is the phenomenal growth of the number of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW).

In 1975, when the overseas workers program began, some 35,000 workers were deployed. But as of December 2004, there were 3.6 million and 1.3 million "irregular" overseas Filipinos, according to the Commission of Filipinos Overseas' (CFO) Stock Estimate of Overseas Filipinos.

The OFWs also called "temporary" overseas workers in the commission's count include persons whose stay overseas is employment related and who are expected to return at the end of their work contracts.

The "irregular" overseas Filipinos are those who are not properly documented or without valid residence or work permits or who are overstaying in a foreign country.

The third category of overseas Filipinos in the study are the "permanent" overseas Filipinos, including immigrants or legal permanent residents abroad whose stay do not depend on work contracts. They number 3.2 million in 2004, bringing the total of number overseas Filipinos to 8.1 million.

With the big increase of OFWs, what started as a stop gap measure to ease local unemployment and poverty some 30 years ago, has become a major government program and a big factor in the country's economy.

Money sent by OFWs back to the Philippines amounted to $10.7 billion in 2005.

Remittances sent through informal channels, like a worker's friends, acquaintances or other travellers, were estimated to reach $1.7 billion. This makes estimated total OFW remittances in 2005 to be about $12.3 billion.

It was the first time that OFW inflows breached the $10-billion mark, equivalent to about half of the Bangko Sentral's international reserves. In 2004, OFW remittances sent through the banking system amounted to $8.6 billion, up from $7.6 billion in 2003 and $6.9 billion in 2002. *PDI Research*

VIDEO CALLING
Talk face to face, phone to phone.

VIDEO STREAMING
Watch real-time video broadcasts on your phone from virtually anywhere.

N70
NOKIA
Call 1
Options
Handset
Movie stream
Pause
Stop
NOKIA
N90

Nokia N70
FREE@PLAN 1800

Nokia N90
FREE@PLAN 2500
FREE@PLAN 3500
(with JABRA Bluetooth Headset)

Subscribe to Addict Mobile, and be the first to experience these 3G services FREE for a limited time:
VIDEO CALLING • HIGH-SPEED INTERNET • VIDEO STREAMING

addict
Get hooked.
POWERED BY SMART 3G
NOKIA

These handset offers are for SMART subscribers availing of additional lines, SMART subscribers with expiring contracts and switchers from other networks.
Go to any Smart Wireless Center or to any of these malls to avail of the offers: Rockwell Power Plant • Podium • Megamall • Robinsons Manila • Festival Mall • Alabang Town Center

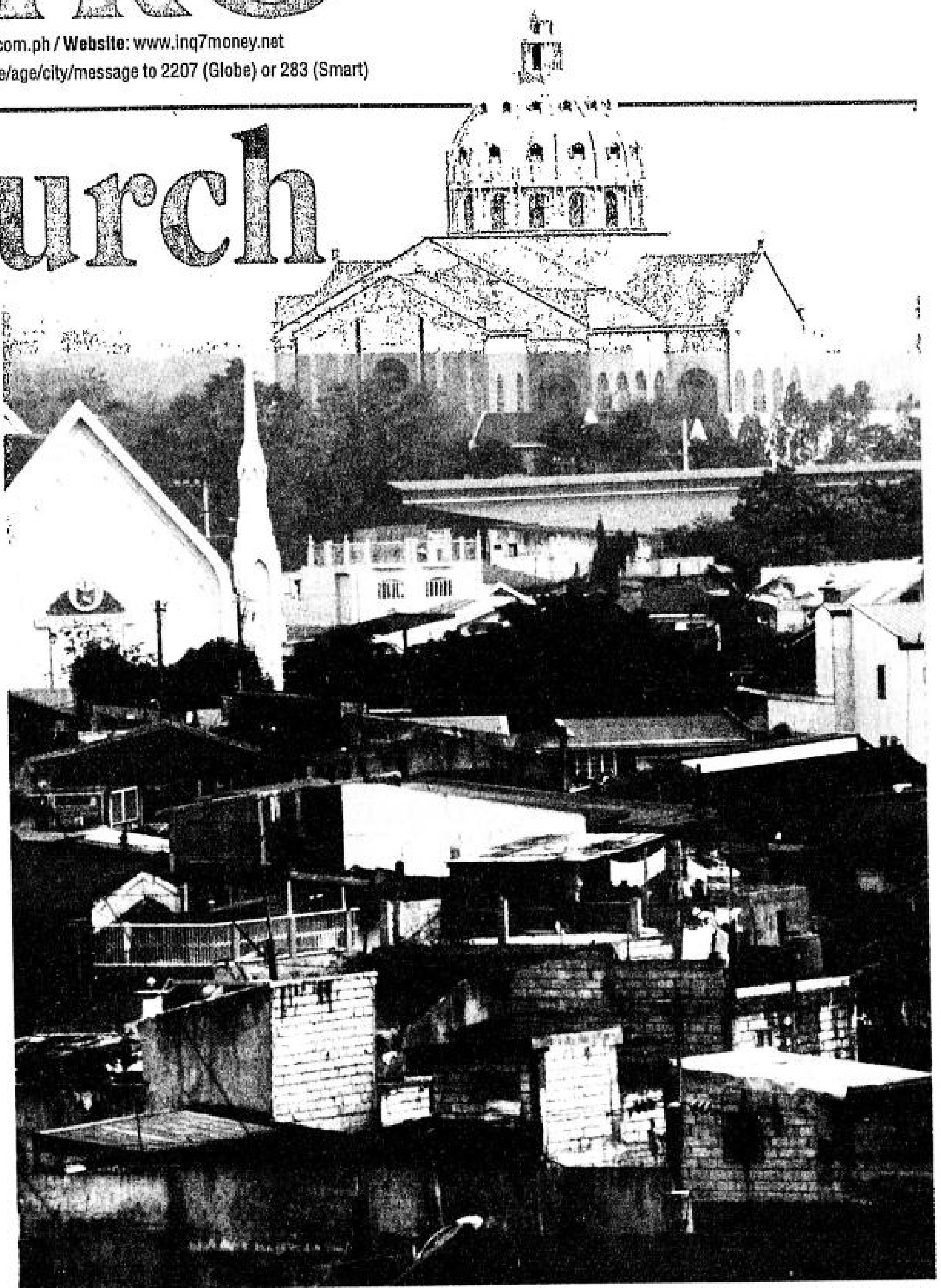
Aplus METRO

Editor **Ester G. Dipasupil**

E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph / **Website:** www.inq7money.net

Text us your feedback: inquirer met name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

RP's tallest church rises in Pasig



THE SANTA CLARA DE MONTEFALCO PARISH in Pasig City looms over nearby structures in Barangay Caniogan. The 57-meter high church is seven stories tall and can seat 2,000 people. RAFFY LERMA

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

BECAUSE OF ONE MAN'S FAITH, THE SMALLEST chapel in Pasig City is being transformed into possibly the tallest church in the country.

Before its renovation, the over a century-old Santa Clara De Montefalco parish church could accommodate only 160 people. But now, the seven-story structure, although still unfinished, can hold almost 2,000 parishioners.

The P100-million structure in Barangay Caniogan is at least 57 meters high. According to the man who first dreamt of transforming the little chapel into a huge church, it is the tallest Roman Catholic church in the country.

"This church will be a good reminder to all of us that we can accomplish so much if only we work together," said Fr. Renier Llorca, Sta. Clara's former parish priest and church administrator.

Not easy

Fulfilling his vision was not easy. His superiors earlier doubted his dream of building a huge church, mainly because it was difficult looking for funds for the project through donations from a not-so-affluent community.

Llorca's dream began to take shape when he was assigned as parish priest for the chapel in December 1994 when the Diocese of Pasig was still part of the Archdiocese of Manila.

The parish was housed in the smallest chapel in the city. Just like other chapels and churches, it was always crowded during the celebration of Masses.

Llorca said there were already 15 churches and chapels in Pasig which can hold around 150,000 churchgoers. But there are half a million devout Roman Catholics in Pasig City.

Posing a bigger challenge to the already crowded mother parish, the Immaculate Conception Church, was the continuing influx of people from the provinces.

"Those who couldn't get inside the church could no longer hear the Word of God. They were just chatting," Llorca observed.

So the idea was born: Why not build a church bigger than the mother parish? "But while working on the design, we thought of making the new church taller to fit its massive floor plan," he said.

Noli Bernardo, who had designed the St. Peter's Parish on Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City, was the architect chosen for the project.

Impressive design

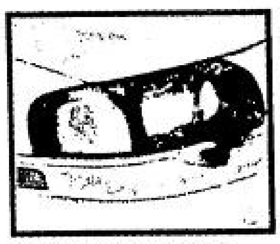
The final architectural design impressed Llorca: the new edifice would rise to at least 53 meters, with a four-meter-high cross sitting on the dome, set to dwarf the famous Redemptorist (Baclaran) Church in Parañaque City which, based on Llorca's own research, stood at about 52 meters.

"Then Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin did not give me his blessing when we first asked for his permission," the priest said. "He thought the plan was very ambitious and he was worried about where we would get the funds to get it started," he added.

Llorca then decided to hold a survey in Barangay Caniogan, where

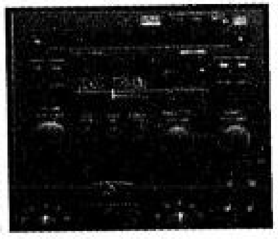
RP'S TALLEST/ A18

LUXURY OF AN S80 V.I.P.

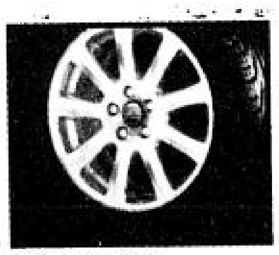


Bi-Xenon Headlamps

Luxurious & Spacious Interior



Dolby Pro-Logic Surround sound



17" Alloy Rims

VOLVO S80

50% DOWNPAYMENT 0% INTEREST 48 MONTHS TO PAY

THE 2006 VOLVO S80 VALUE INVESTMENT PACKAGE (V.I.P.) IS ALL ABOUT CHOOSING THE LUXURY YOU DESERVE. IT'S TIME YOU OWN VOLVO'S HIGHLY-ACCLAIMED FLAGSHIP LUXURY SEDAN THROUGH THE MOST CONVENIENT FINANCING PACKAGE AVAILABLE.

THE VOLVO S80 V.I.P. IS VALID FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY. DON'T LET THIS DEAL PASS YOU BY. RUSH TO THE NEAREST SHOWROOM AND TEST DRIVE A VOLVO S80 NOW.

0% INTEREST MONTHLY INSTALLMENTS

S80 2.0 L	P30,677.00
S80 2.5 L	P33,854.16

VALID UNTIL APRIL 15, 2006 *subject to bank approval.

VOLVO ORTIGAS
88 ADB AVENUE
ORTIGAS CENTER, PASIG CITY
637-0414 TO 15
ortigas-sales@volvophils.com

VOLVO MAKATI
2272 CHINO ROCES AVENUE (FORMERLY PASONG TAMO EXT.), MAKATI CITY
757-1619, 893-6621 TO 22, 26 TO 27
makatisales@volvophils.com

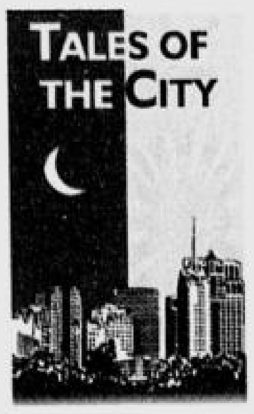
VOLVO CEBU
A.S. FORTUNA ST., BANILAD
MANDAUE CITY 6014 CEBU
(032) 346-3322, 0916-6873657

VOLVO

Volvo. for life

First woman fire marshal bats for gender rights

By Jocelyn R. Uy



MARCH BEING FIRE PREVENTION and National Women's Month, who better to put in the spotlight than a woman who has been tasked with fighting fires in the southern part of the metropolis?

Meet Supt. Sofia Mendoza, district fire marshal of southern Metro Manila, the first woman in the history of the Bureau of Fire Protection-National Capital Region office to head a male-dominated workforce.

"I know that this is a tedious job but I accepted it because I want to open doors for other women firefighters," Mendoza told the INQUIRER.

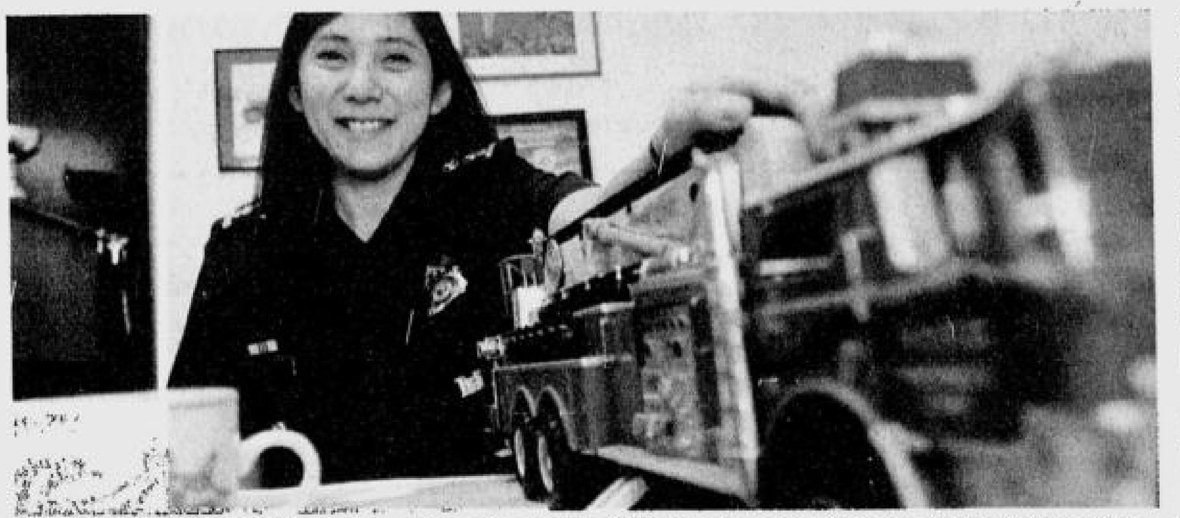
She may be working in what she called "a man's world," but the 41-year-old Mendoza looks every inch a woman—from her long auburn-streaked hair to her manicured nails. "I always tell my female colleagues that we should never lose touch of our feminine side. I encourage them to tidy up and put on even a hint of makeup because after all, they are still women," Mendoza said.

Even her workstation at the Fire District 3 office in Makati shows feminine touches: a vase overflowing with bright flowers and a Pink Panther mug.

Mendoza's codename is, incidentally, Pink Panther. "The name given to whoever holds the position of District 3 fire marshal is 'Panther'. Since I am a woman, I am the Pink Panther," she said with a laugh.

A licensed civil engineer, Mendoza started as a clerk at the National Police Commission in 1987. Her supervisors, however, encouraged her to seek greener pastures through a lateral entry to the then Philippine Constabulary Integrated National Police which supervises policemen, firefighters and jail officers.

"My superiors told me that I could train as a police officer but I chose to become a firefighter because the job entailed engineering expertise," she said.



SUPT. SOFIA MENDOZA, southern Metro fire marshal: The feminine mystique at work behind the desk.
EDWIN BACASMAS

Baptism of fire

In 1990, Mendoza was assigned to Bacolod City as chief of fire operations. This was where she literally had her baptism of fire, fighting blazes right alongside other firemen, inhaling suffocating smoke and climbing up and down ladders, while carrying a heavy water hose.

She also did her share of desk work, first at the national office in Quezon City as the chief of the information technology unit. During her stint there, she developed the BFP's payroll system and initiated studies on human resource and geographical information systems for the bureau.

Mendoza was also assigned to the adjudication division where she helped increase women firefighters' awareness of their rights. In 2004, she was appointed deputy fire marshal of the eastern part of Metro Manila.

Bigger responsibility

In June last year, she was given the responsibility of overseeing fire fighting operations in five cities: Makati, Pasay, Parañaque, Las Piñas and Muntinlupa.

"I love my job. It tugs at the heart when people suddenly come up to me and say thank you for saving their lives and their property," she said.

Mendoza confessed to having a "domineering personality," saying, "This is what keeps me going in a man's world."

Despite her strict demeanor, she has retained a soft spot for other women firefighters, who remain a minority in the bureau, numbering only 500 out of the 15,000 firemen nationwide.

Eye-opener

Mendoza is not only a dedicated firefighter, she is also a staunch advocate of women firefighters' rights. During her stint with the adjudication board, her eyes were opened to sexual harassment cases in the bureau.

"But there are still many who keep silent because they are scared and threatened," Mendoza lamented. She sees to it that new women recruits undergo a seminar on gender development so they are aware of their rights.

"I want them to learn and know their rights at an early stage of their service so that they will not become victims of sexual harassment," she said. "If they know their rights, they will feel empowered."

Where is cleanest barangay?

LAS PIÑAS CITY IS LOOKING for the city's cleanest barangay, barangay halls, schools, daycare centers and police stations.

Mayor Imelda Aguilar said the contest, which will be launched in May, aims to promote cleanliness and inculcate the habit of waste recycling and segregation among residents.

"It is high time that everyone should do their share in maintaining cleanliness to minimize the volume of garbage collected everyday to promote a safe and clean environment," Aguilar said. Winners will receive prizes and plaques of recognition.

Republic of the Philippines
BATANGAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Rizal St., Batangas City

NOTICE OF SEARCH AND CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Board of Regents of the Batangas State University formally and publicly announces that the Search for Presidency of the **BATANGAS STATE UNIVERSITY** is now open. Interested applicants and/or nominees are invited to send their formal applications to the Search Committee chaired by Dr. Ma. Cristina D. Padolina.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be a Filipino citizen;
- Preferably a holder of a doctoral degree;
- Preferably 35 to 60 years old;
- Must be morally upright;
- With Recognized leadership in his/her profession in the academe or industry;
- With at least five (5) years of managerial/administrative experience.

In addition to the above-mentioned qualifications, the applicants should make a full disclosure of all administrative, criminal, and/or civil cases filed in any court in the Philippines against him/her and are required to submit the following clearances:

- National Bureau of Investigation
- Sandiganbayan
- Civil Service Commission and/or Certificate of No Pending Administrative Case issued by the Administrative Officer of present employer
- Previous Employer
- Not convicted in any administrative or ciminal cases

Formal application addressed to the Search Committee should be accompanied with:

- Detailed CV and certified supporting documents
- Proposed vision, Mission and Thrusts of the University
- Results of neuro-psychiatric examination conducted by any government physician or any accredited health institution
- Medical Certificate from a government physician

Interested applicants and/or those nominated for the position are requested to submit six (6) sets of their formal application and certified supporting documents on or before March 28, 2006 to:

MR. MARLON N. FABRICANTE
Executive Assistant IV
Office of Commissioner S. M. OCAMPO, JR.
CHED, 5/F, DAP Bldg., San Miguel Ave.,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. No. (02) 636-1690
Telefax No. (02) 636-1693

OR

BATANGAS STATE UNIVERSITY
c/o MS. ROSE MAGSINO
Batangas State University
Rizal St., Batangas City
Tel. No. (043) 723-0339

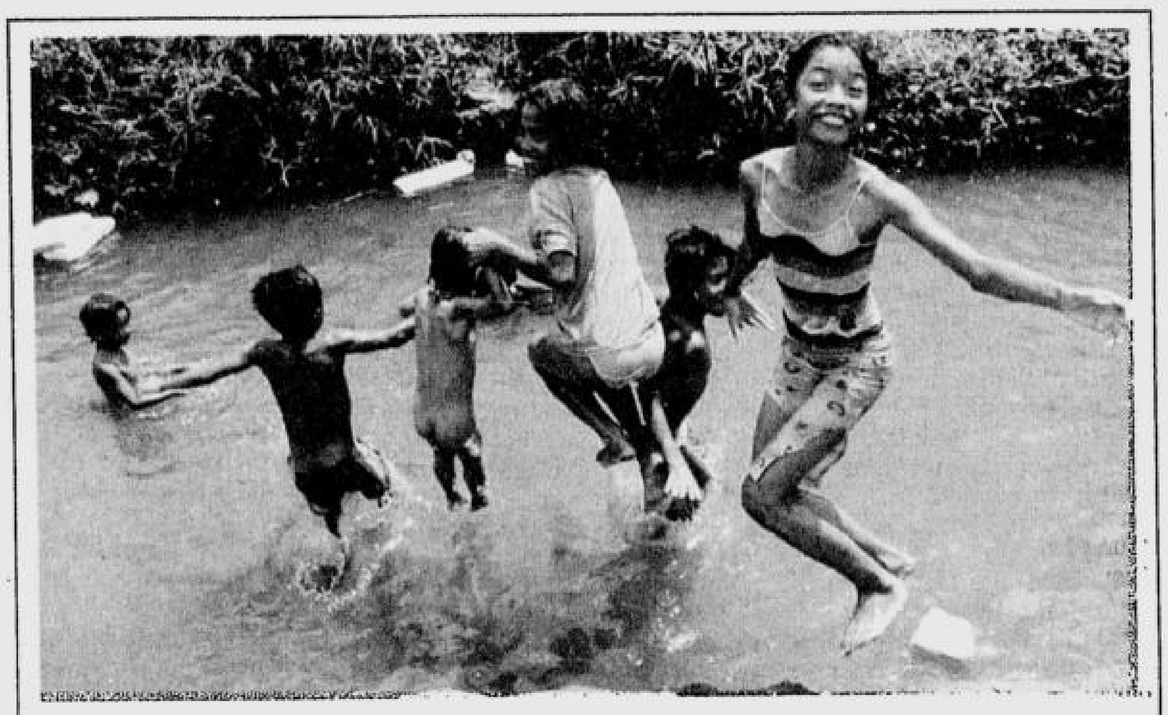
Fowl ban in Makati

By Jocelyn R. Uy

POULTRY PRODUCTS FROM bird flu-affected countries in Asia are not welcome in Makati City.

Mayor Jejomar Binay yesterday announced a ban on the distribution and sale of fowl from China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand and Cambodia to protect residents from the deadly virus.

Dr. Jacinto Inocencio III of the Makati Veterinary Service Office said they will be monitoring 15 public markets and six supermarkets in the city to ensure that only safe poultry products are sold to consumers. Those found violating the ban shall be "endorsed" to the police for proper action.



HELLO, SUMMER!
The signs are here, and no one knows it better than these children who beat the summer heat by taking a dip in a creek in Diliman, Quezon City.
JOAN BONDOC

RP's tallest church rises in Pasig

From page A17

the new church would be located. "Ninety-nine percent of those we surveyed said yes. We again asked for Cardinal Sin's blessing, and we said God would find the way," Llorca said.

He would still celebrate Mass at the old chapel on Sixto Antonio Avenue even as he personally supervised the land filling of about 11,230-sq. m of rice fields where the new church would be built two kilometers away.

After spending thousands of pesos filling the lot, Llorca decided to hold a groundbreaking ceremony in August 1996. But construction could not yet push through.

"The owners of the adjacent lots also elevated their properties, leaving our compound at the lowest level. We had no choice but to fill up the lot again. We organized raffles and other fund-raising activities to raise the money for the task," Llorca said.

Looking for another source of funding, his team thought of building an ossuary, where parishioners could buy niches for their dearly departed

Llorca then set up a makeshift altar near the gate, holding Masses as if praying for the fulfillment of his dream.

Construction begins, halts

After elevating the compound to about two meters, the foundation of the new church was constructed in 1998, only for work to stop again after three months. "We had already spent about P3 million for the vertical construction. We had to stop because we ran out of money," Llorca said.

In the next two years, the project remained idle as Llorca and his team focused on raising funds. As the ossuary began to take shape, donations poured in little by little.

Llorca re-launched the project in 2000 and construction pushed through afterward.

After four years, the massive church was already standing. Though its interior had not been completed and the exterior still needed finishing touches, the new home of the Sta. Clara De Monte Falco Parish was inaugurated in May 2004.

The church has seven floors. The ossuary, named Santuario Del Amor Divino, is on the ground floor, right below the main altar on the upper floor. The completed ossuary, which area is still less than half of the planned 7,536 crypts, now holds 2,848 crypts.

The main altar on the upper floor faces a hall with a 2,000 seating capacity. Adorned with an equally huge *retablo* with intricate carvings worth P2 million, the main altar was a donation from a well-off parishioner.

There are 20 glass windows in the hall, ensuring enough ventilation for churchgoers. The dining and receiving areas are on the third level. The upper levels, still under construction, will serve as quarters for priests and church volunteers.

Llorca is also proud of the massive dome rising in the middle of the church. There are plans to paint a mural on the inner walls of the dome.

P50 million more

The project still needs about P50 million to be completed. But after building a P100-million structure by starting with nothing, Llorca is quite confident they can meet their goal. He still gets goose bumps at the sight of the massive dome, rising as if to reach the sky, an affirmation of a dream many thought was impossible a decade ago, a testimony to the power of devotion and faith.

INVITATION TO BID

The AFP Retirement and Separation Benefits System (RSBS) invites interested parties to purchase by way of sealed bids the following properties on cash or term basis (minimum 30% down payment and 16% interest rate per annum, maximum of 7 years to pay):

Item No.	Description	Location	Minimum Floor Price
06-1	259.7 sqm residential lot	No. 12 Rimas St. Proj. 2, Q.C.	P 2,428,195.00
06-2	4 residential lots 300 sqm each	Brgy. Pimienta, Umingan, Pangasinan	P 455,855.00
06-3	2 residential lots 500 sqm each	Brgy. Prado, Umingan, Pangasinan	P 243,600.00
06-4	House & Lot F/A 48 sqm L/A 198 sqm	L13, B15, AFP Village, San Mateo, Rizal	P 267,877.00
06-5	9,448 sqm industrial lot	Bulacan Agro Industrial Subdivision Calumpit, Bulacan	P 30,516,700.00
06-6	367 sqm residential lot	L12, B6, Snra. De la Paz Subd. Sumulong, Antipolo	P 892,500.00
06-7	241 sqm residential lot	L6, B11, Lopez Subdivision, Brgy. Tugbungan, Zamboanga City	P 20,485.00
06-8	House & Lot F/A 152 sqm L/A 208 sqm	L6, B32, Phase II, Soldier's Hills Subd., Muntinlupa City	P 707,200.00
06-9	120 sqm residential lot	L4, B3, Kameha-meha St., Kingsville Subd., Antipolo	P 367,200.00
06-10	3,000 sqm residential lot 13,000 sqm agri lot	Brgy. Cajimos, Romblon, Romblon	P 1,538,310.00
06-11	House & Lot F/A 42 sqm L/A 120 sqm	L45 & 47, B4, Alpha Street Northmatrixville Subd., Caloocan	P 509,320.00
06-12	322 sqm residential lot	L70, B1-A Diamond Park Victoria Homes, Muntinlupa City	P 547,400.00
06-13	Block Making Machine "As-is, Where-is"	Balibago, Sta. Rosa, Laguna	P 865,224.29

Interested bidders may obtain bidding documents starting March 13, 2006 upon payment of non-refundable fee of P500.00 from the Office of the Head, Property Management, 3/F, RSBS Bldg., Camp Aguinaldo, Q. C.

A Pre-bidding Conference is scheduled on March 23, 2006 at 10:00 AM, Central Meeting Room A, RSBS, Camp Aguinaldo, Q. C.

Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders or their representatives on March 28, 2006 at 10:00 AM at the Central Meeting Room A, RSBS, Camp Aguinaldo, Q. C.

For further inquiries, you can call MS. LIZA HIZON or MR. DARWIN MANZANO at telephone numbers 9124718 or 9114071 local 249.

(PDI-March 10, 11 & 12, 2006)

BAGUIO WATER DISTRICT
"WE SERVE"

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Baguio Water District, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites contractors registered with and classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to apply for eligibility and if found eligible, to bid for the hereunder contracts

	CONTRACT A	CONTRACT B
Name of Contract	Pipeline Installation for Irisan Well	Contraction of 2-units reinforced concrete pumphouses and steel sump tanks for Irisan well
Location	Irisan, Baguio City	Irisan, Baguio City
Brief Description	The project involves the pipelaying of 12" Ø x 2 8 km and 6" Ø x 1 km pipelines	The project involves the construction of 2-units reinforced concrete pumphouses with steel sump tanks, riprap works and perimeter fence
Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	Php 7,985,611.50	Php 2,199,078.10
Contract Duration	55 calendar days	34 calendar days

Note: Bids for the above contracts shall be submitted separately. The above contracts will be awarded individually.

Prospective bidders should possess a valid PCAB License applicable to the contract, have completed a similar contract with a value of at least 50% of the ABC, and have key personnel and equipment (listed in the Eligibility Forms) available for the prosecution of the contract The BAC will use a non-discretionary pass-fail criteria in the Eligibility Check/Screening as well as in the Preliminary Examination of Bids The BAC will conduct post-qualification on the lowest calculated bid

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bid Conference/s, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR)

The schedule of BAC activities is as follows

	BAC Activities	Schedule
1	Receipt from interested bidders Letter of Intent (LOI) including Application for Eligibility and simultaneous issuance of Eligibility Forms	March 13-16 2006
2	Submission of Eligibility Documents	March 28 2006, 5 00 pm
3	Issuance of Results of Eligibility Check	April 4 2006

The BAC will issue Eligibility Forms to interested bidders upon the submission of a Letter of Intent to the BAC Secretariat at the Baguio Water District, Purok BWD 003 Brgy Marcoville Baguio City and upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000 00) to the Baguio Water District Cashier Interest bidders shall submit the Eligibility Requirements to the BAC at the said address and on the due date as specified above

Bid documents will be available only to eligible bidders upon the payment of a non-refundable amount of Three Thousand Pesos (P3,000 00) to the BWD Cashier

The Baguio Water District assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids

The Baguio Water District reserves the right to reject any and/or bids or not to award the contract in accordance with the pertinent provisions of RA 9184 and its implementing rules and regulations

(Sgd.) Engr. SALVADOR M. ROYECA
BAC Projects Chairman

(PDI - Mar. 5 & 12, 2006)

GLOBAL Pinoy

E-mail: pr_global_pinoy@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor **Gerry Lirio**

Starting today and every Sunday, this section is dedicated to the Filipinos overseas toiling on land and at sea, in factories, in construction sites and in the homes of the world, and wherever work can be contracted to secure a better life for their families. These are their stories.

THE FILIPINOS aboard as brilliant as their ship, Brilliance of the Seas all aglow by night.

OFWs make waves from belly of luxury ship to top deck

By Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

FROM BOILER ROOM TO ballroom, from stage to spa, from poolside to pantry, from bar to fine dining. From the belly of the luxury ship to the topmost deck where one could see forever and behold the azure sea and sky of the Mediterranean.

Overseas Filipino workers (OFW) rule the roost, so to speak, aboard the cruise ship Brilliance of the Seas because of their sheer number and also because of their skills, talent, dependability and graciousness. Filipinos comprise about 60 percent of the 853-strong crew that is composed of 51 nationalities.

"Here I earn the combined salaries of four teachers and three security guards in the Philippines," reveals Jerry Dioneo, 36, who works in the dining section. Dioneo who hails from Silay City in Negros Occidental has been on the ship for about three years and is on his fourth contract. Only the Filipino nationals, Dioneo adds, are compelled to allot and remit 20 percent of their earnings to their folks back home. This is stipulated in their contracts.

And what is work like on cruise days? "Every day here is a Monday," Dioneo chirps as he replenishes the cornucopia of food for the guests.

Victoriano Camacho, 46, of Calamba, Laguna, has been with the cruise company for 16 years and is now the sous chef (assistant of the executive chef). He started out at the Nikko Hotel in Makati. Now he earns $2,600 a month.

$1.7 billion of the total $10.8 billion remitted by OFWs in 2005 came from the sea-based OFWs. The number of Filipino seafarers working abroad as of 2005, is about 250,000 or approximately 20 percent of the world's total.

'White List'

The rise in the number could be attributed to the inclusion of the Philippines in the International Maritime Organization's "White List" of 72 accredited countries. Being on the list means the country has continuously complied with the standards required for competent seafarers.

Being a Filipino seaman or seafarer does not necessarily mean working in cargo ships sailing drearily on a gray sea and being cooped up, fighting ennui until land appears on the horizon. A good number of the sea-based OFWs work in cruise ships. These luxury liners cater to vacation-bound, fun-loving, adventure-seeking humans, people who work hard and play hard, or who just want to be out of reach and listen to the music of the ocean, heeding the cruise logo catchphrase that says, "Get out there." One could also choose to get holed up in the ship's library.

BAR server Vergie Mompil hopes to have a thriving hardware store someday. CERES P. DOYO

OYE COMO VA! Vicky and The Holding Company holding the audience in thrall CERES P. DOYO

The three-year-old German-built Brilliance of the Seas belongs to a fleet of cruise ships of the Royal Caribbean International (RCI) that sails in Europe, North America and the Caribbean. It has a passenger capacity of 2,500.

The Filipino seamen and women working on board are there to help make good things happen. The job is demanding as cruises involve service, hospitality, food, fun, travel, safety and, most of all, people.

Earning from tips

Bar server Vergie Mompil, an education course graduate, has spent eight years working on several cruise ships. Her husband, Edwin Vicero also works in another cruise ship, Jewels of the Sea.

Those in food service are not paid the fixed salary rate that workers in other sections receive. Food and drink servers like Vergie receive only $50 per 12-day cruise but the tips (provided for in the bill) earn her about $1,000. Two cruises per month or more than ten cruises in a six-month contract mean a lot when remitted to the Philippines. "After six months, we go on a two-month break," Vergie adds.

Vergie is stationed at the bar in the main lobby ballroom at the foot of a luminous stairway where guests in formal wear linger to chat or dance to music provided mainly by—you guessed it—Filipino musicians.

Vergie and her husband have a three-year-old child who is being cared for by two aunts. The couple is building a home south of Manila and planning for a hardware store.

Not everyone is in the direct employ of RCI. Hoffman Roscano, 27, married, works as a photographer of a photo agency that operates aboard the ship. He and several photographers have their hands full during formal dinners and evening activities as well as land tours. During special occasions, they set up a mini studio where guests in their glittering "Titanic" finery could go for a formal shoot. Guests snap up the photos the morning after. Roscano also receives commissions from the sales.

CLASSIC guitarist Edgardo Villarino wishes international cruises would include the Philippines. C. DOYO

FAST FACTS

- 3.6 million estimated number of OFWs
- 1.3 million estimated number of undocumented workers
- 229,002 estimate numbers of Filipino seafarers on board international vessels
- 160 Number of countries where there are Filipinos living and working
- 40 Percentage of OFWs to total overseas Filipinos which reached 8 million in 2004
- $80 billion Total remittances of overseas Filipinos, 1990 - 2005
- 5th Rank of the Philippines in the World Bank's ranking of countries based on workers remittances

'Better than 5-star salary'

Karen del Carmen, in her 20s, works as a beauty therapist in the Brilliance Day Spa operated by an agency. A tourism graduate of a college in Bacolod, she had a work stint in a hotel in the Philippines after which she applied in a maritime agency. The spa company hired her and sent her to London for training.

"Better than a five-star salary," is how del Carmen describes what she earns. After every 12-day cruise she gets two days off. "It's fun working here," she says as she looks up from her desk in the spa's lavender-scented receiving area.

Nights are busy for the musicians who play in different venues aboard the ship. John Neri, 24, regales the night owls with violin music. As a child he studied music under a scholarship program for the musically gifted.

Neri met his wife in another cruise ship. Married for four years now, the couple is building a house in Kalookan City.

'Oye como va'

Although now US-based, Vicky Gallarde of Vicky and The Holding Company band still calls the Philippines home. It's a rollicking night when the band plays for a crowd with itchy feet.

Vicky switches without a hitch from lusty "Amor, amor, amor" to a staccato "Oye como va" while husband Chris and the rest segue from rhumba to disco beat. The band is a ship mainstay.

The couple has a room for two of their own at the crew quarters. The standard rooms for two for the crew have TVs and computers with e-mail capabilities. The Filipinos also have a daily two-page news digest called "Philippines Today." There is a bar as well as games and exercise facilities.

Edgardo Villarino, 42, studied music in the University of the Philippines and sang with the UP Concert Chorus. He is married with three kids. The INQUIRER chanced upon Villarino playing soothing classic guitar music by the poolside.

He was in the Caribbean several months earlier and he remembers the day a hurricane blew around there. There are less "sea days" in the Mediterranean, he says, meaning, the ship docks often in tourist havens.

Selling the Philippines

On his fifth contract now, Villarino says their own families could enjoy cruise privileges when there is space available. And could the entertainers have some fun during the day? "If there are less than five guests using the pool, we could take a dip," Villarino says.

He dreams of cruises on Philippine waters that could rival those elsewhere. "We try to advertise the Philippines. Subic is so beautiful." He talks of an island in Haiti that Royal Caribbean had developed.

Great workers

Bill Brunkhorst, American cruise director who makes sure entertainment is at its peak, has only good words for the Filipinos. "They are so talented and they learn very quickly," he says. "They're great workers."

CERES P. DOYO

VIOLINIST John Neri and photographer Hoffman Roscano

The Greek ship captain Michael Lachtaridis, a seasoned sea voyager who has been sailing the seas for 33 years says he has been working with Filipinos since the 1980s. "They get along well with other nationalities," he says. "They are very educated and they are a happy lot."

Whether it is instructing on wine tasting, giving beauty massages, serving at formal dinners, making omelets at the buffet breakfast, playing music, snapping photos amidst the Greek ruins, ensuring security and swiping cards at entry and exit points, disposing garbage or keeping staterooms clean, Filipino seamen and women are doing their best. And why not a Filipino guest chaplain or morgue attendant?

The least seen

The least seen but perhaps the most important because they make the ship sail the distances are those who work in the belly of the ship or the engine room. The lives of those on board are practically in the hands of these experts in ship engineering.

The INQUIRER descended to the grime-free hard hat area and met some of the Filipinos there. Jessie Hervilla, Estefanio Joel, Steve Flores, Ramon Cerio, Percival Dilag and so many more. Chief Junior Engineer Rasmus Norling of Sweden has only high praises for the men who are seldom seen on deck.

But life for the OFWs on board these cruise ships is surely not problem-free, as life anywhere is not. Are the OFWs on these so-called floating four-star, five-star hotels better off than their counterparts in cargo ships and oil tankers? What lies beyond those glittering nights and sunny days at sea? What awaits them in their homeland? What awaits Edward Pampis, Joselito Benito, Cipertino Apil, Arlene Salon, Susan Gatmaitan, Arthur Pernia, Julius, Mijares, Juanito Embolori, Edwin Miranda, Enrico Sabido, Victor Amuyang, Ronaldo Carreon, Ernita Villanueva, George Tardo, Joselito Benito…

Don't they feel resentful when they see food and drink flowing endlessly, people having so much fun and spending so much money for this kind of voyage, while they work so hard to keep these people thrilled and while the pine for home?

"Oh no," says a food server without a tinge of resentment. "Many of them have worked hard too. And because of them we have our jobs. Someday we too could enjoy something like this."

This INQUIRER reporter was a regular paying guest on this cruise. The ship sailed from Barcelona and back and stopped in several key places on the Mediterranean coasts of Spain, France, Italy, Greece and Turkey.

OFWs turn Batangas town into La Dolce Vita

From page A16

lings also find work and settle in Italy.

In less than a year after Dolor paved the way, so to speak, more village women were already leaving for Italy in groups of 10 to 15, mostly with the help of a certain "Aling Letty," a recruiter based in Pasay City, Magsino said.

Lifestyle change

The INQUIRER met Magsino on Friday in his house, one of the remaining few in Anahao who has not sent any family member abroad for work. Considered among the pioneer residents, the retired cop offered his own assessment of what his village has gained—and lost—with its dependence on OFWs.

"Mine used to be among the biggest houses here," he smiled, referring to his bungalow. "Now this is among the smallest."

"See those small kids?" he said, pointing to the street outside, "Their parents aren't here but abroad, usually leaving the care of their children to the grandparents or maids."

"And those big houses you see now? Most of them are occupied just by a trusted relative or a maid, not by the OFW who had them built," he added. "I myself have a cousin (in Italy) who has asked me to look after his newly renovated house—and all I needed to do is turn the lights on and off."

"You won't find any of them now. They are all back abroad," he said, when the INQUIRER asked whether he can help arrange interviews with any OFW who happened to be in the village on vacation.

Silent middle class

For here, as in any similar community around the country, the *balikbayan* or "homecoming" period for the breadwinners is during Christmas or graduation season, he explained.

Seeing many of those freshly painted "dream homes" empty seems to give a literal meaning to the oft-heard political catchphrase: The Silent Middle Class.

And there are other things rather awkward about the unprecedented progress attained by Anahao.

While most households now can obviously afford utilities like telephone lines, Internet connection, or something as basic as a steady, metered water supply, the village still has no access to these services that the government is supposed to provide or facilitate. Water is still piped to homes from a mountain spring. Residents can only call through cell phones.

The main road is already paved but remains a one-lane affair as in the old days, a pity considering the residents' vastly increased purchasing power that has allowed them to buy brand new vans and SUVs.

But if there's one thing that particularly pleased Magsino, it was the relief done to the local natural environment after his community eventually gave up farming and just looked forward to the next remittance.

"Our nearby mountains (Mt. Matinik and Kabaak) were already denuded then because of *kaingin*. But now the trees are back," he said.

Excess money

After improving their old homes, many OFWs have since made heavy "investments" elsewhere, mostly in real estate. Magsino said they usually bought lots or homes in prime subdivisions around Batangas or farmlands in Mindoro.

But still, their most precious investment seems to be in their children's future. This is indicated, ironically, by the "falling enrollment" in the barangay's public school, the village chair said.

Since OFW-dependent families can now afford expensive private schools, "only around 90 pupils" were left studying this year at the government-run Pulong Anahao Elementary School, he said.

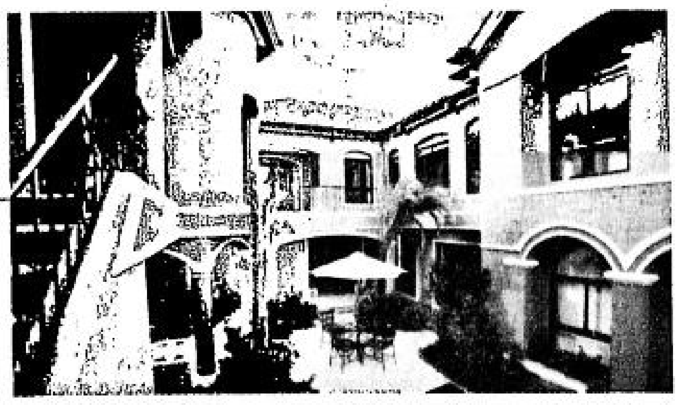
EMPTY NEST. The breadwinners are all in Milan. Elders or maids are left to mind the new houses in Barangay Pulong Anahao, a common sight in this village of 800 that has sent some 250 OFWs to Italy. RAFFY LERMA

The private school pupils are even shuttled in their family vehicles to campuses at the Mabini town proper or as far as Batangas City, he noted.

But perhaps for a deeper feel of how Anahao's Italian renaissance has changed the people's life and mindset, one just need to overhear the usual "huntahan" or street-corner banter—especially when the chat strays into politics and current events.

"Since people here don't want the peso to strengthen any further against the dollar (or Euro), you could hear some of them actually wishing there would be more protest rallies in Metro Manila," Magsino shares with a laugh.

Brittany's Homes of Distinction featuring the Portofino Masters Collection



The spacious courtyard, the luxury of privacy, the benefits of the outdoors.

GLIMPSES OF GRANDEUR

Brittany Corporation, the maverick of property development, raises the standard for grandeur in homes with The Homes of Distinction. The Portofino Masters Collection is the first series of homes under Homes of Distinction. The Masters Collection takes the finest artistic traditions of Italian architecture and expresses it into a most noble, majestic form.

The cupola is a majestic statement from the grand tradition of Italian architecture.

THE MAKINGS OF A MASTERPIECE

The homes of The Masters Collection are named after the great Italian artists. Presently, Michelangelo is available for viewing at Portofino. The home features a palatial silhouette with a stately cupola, archways, and columns. Stone cladding fortifies its regal bearing. Arched windows allow an abundance of natural light.

You enjoy the luxury of space. Lot areas are from 500 sq.m. to 900 sq.m. The floor area ranges from 330 sq.m. to 625 sq.m.

Alongside the architectural artistry, the homes of the Masters Collection take their regal bearing from the physical dimensions.

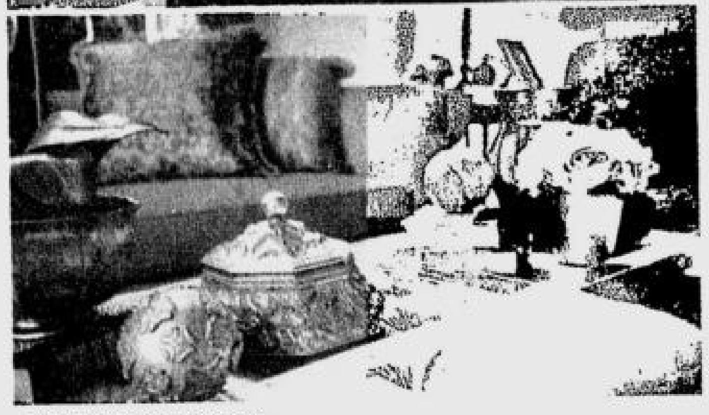
FOR THOSE SELECT FEW LIVING A LIFE OF

SIZE MATTERS

With the Portofino Masters Collection, you have a home that expresses luxury at its most grand.
Distinction, the Masters Collection takes the most opulent Italian architectural design—magnificen
and renders everything in grand dimensions. With the Masterpiece Collection, luxury comes with s

Get to know the grandeur of The Masters Collection. For a Property Preview, call 850 2868 and 850 6

Rooms at the ground floor can be utilized as a sizeable personal den or home office.



The living area: elegance at its most opulent

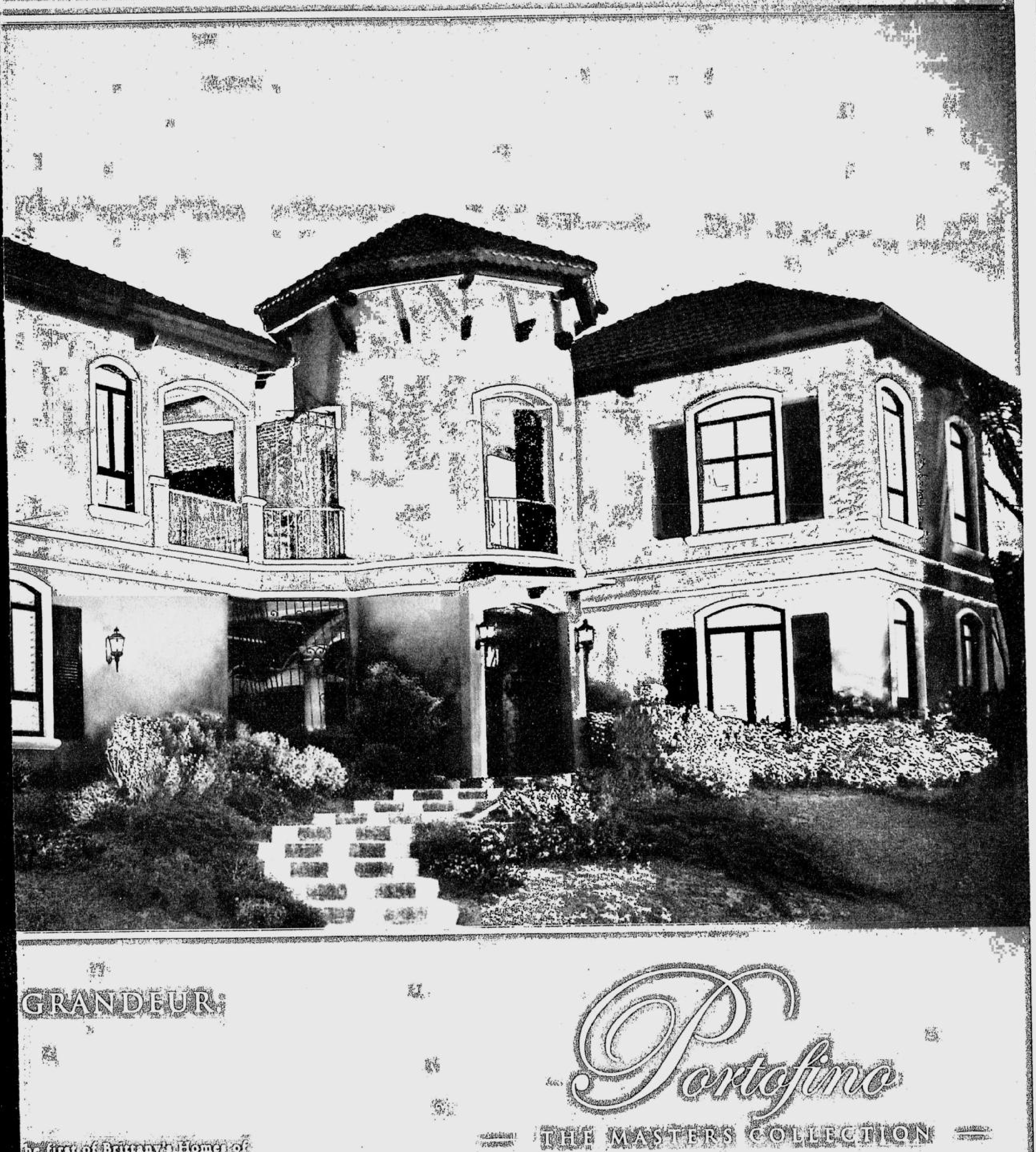
You enjoy the luxury of space. Lot areas are from 500 sq.m. to 900 sq.m. The floor area ranges from 330 sq.m. to 625 sq.m.

Some of the model homes offer great rooms at the ground level. Others offer ground level *casitas* or guest rooms. A versatile space, the *casita* can also be converted into a personal den. Spacious courtyards provide a private place to enjoy the benefits of the outdoors. An atrium, a large open area on the 2nd level, provides additional living space with a splendid view of the outdoors. Ante rooms are a prelude to the generously spaced bedrooms. And each model home has a roomy walk-in closet as well. With the Masters Collection, you have all the living space you need for a life of luxury.

Ranging from P25 million to P40 million, the Masters Collection offers homes at a whole new level of luxury, magnificence at an unprecedented magnitude.

Brittany's Homes of Distinction, as exemplified by the Portofino Masters Collection, leaves an indelible impression. Ranging from P25 million to P40 million, the Masters Collection offers homes at a whole new level of luxury, magnificence at an unprecedented magnitude. For those who live a life with a sense for the grand, a glimpse of the luxurious life awaits with The Masters Collection at Portofino.

For a glimpse of grandeur, get a Property Preview of The Masters Collection. Call 850 2868 and 850 6986 or click www.brittany.com.ph.



GRANDEUR

he first of Brittany's Homes of
cupolas, archways, and columns—
mething that matters: size.

986 or click www.brittany.com.ph

Portofino

THE MASTERS COLLECTION

Brittany
CORPORATION

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Hostaged Christian activist killed in Iraq

21 1 2006
19:56:47
تستأنف اليوم إمداد جورجيا بالغاز بعد توقف دام نحو أسبوع

AMERICAN Tom Fox in image aired by Al Jazeera TV Jan. 28. AP

WASHINGTON—AN AMERICAN WHO WAS among four Christian activists kidnapped last year in Iraq has been killed, a state department spokesperson said.

The FBI verified that a body found in Iraq Friday morning was that of Tom Fox, 54, spokesperson Noel Clay said. He said he had no information on the other three hostages.

Clay said he did not know how Fox was killed but said additional forensics will be done in the United States. The US Embassy in Baghdad is investigating, he said.

Fox's family has been notified, Clay said, and "our heartfelt condolences go out to them."

"The state department continues to call for the unconditional release of all other hostages" in Iraq, the spokesperson said.

Fox's organization, Christian Peacemaker Teams, said Friday, "We mourn the loss of Tom Fox, who combined a lightness of spirit, a firm opposition to all oppression, and the recognition of God in everyone."

Christian Peacemaker codirectors Doug Pritchard and Carol Rose said in a statement, "In response to Tom's passing, we ask that everyone set aside inclinations to vilify or demonize others, no matter what they have done."

"This guy was not after martyrdom by any means," said Paul Slattery, a member of the McLean, Virginia-based Langley Hill Friends Meeting that Fox, a Quaker, also attended. "He actually believed in his heart that he would better them by his conviction and his beliefs and his skills, and I think largely succeeded.

"What he leaves behind is a tremendous challenge for the rest of us and a guiding force."

Fox was the one American among four Christian Peacemaker activists kidnapped last year in Iraq.

On Tuesday, Al-Jazeera television aired footage of the three other activists purportedly appealing to their governments to secure their release.

The hostages seen in the brief video dated Feb. 28 were Canadians James Loney, 41, and Harmeet Singh Sooden, 32; and Briton Norman Kember, 74.

Allan Slater, a Canadian member of Christian Peacemaker Teams, said at the time that he was disturbed not to see Fox.

"We certainly are hopeful when we see three of our friends alive, but also it's very distressing that we didn't see Tom Fox, and I wouldn't want to hide that because I'm sure it's very distressful for Tom's family and friends as well," Slater told The Canadian Press from Baghdad. *AP*

Fallout feared after port deal's collapse

WASHINGTON—PRESIDENT Bush expressed concern on Friday that the congressional opposition that prevented a state-owned Dubai company from taking over operations at six American ports could have a broader negative effect by alienating allies in the Middle East.

In an apparent sign of the new sensitivities, the United Arab Emirates, which includes Dubai, reached what both sides called a "mutual decision" with the Office of the US Trade Representative to postpone talks on a free trade agreement that had been scheduled to resume next week.

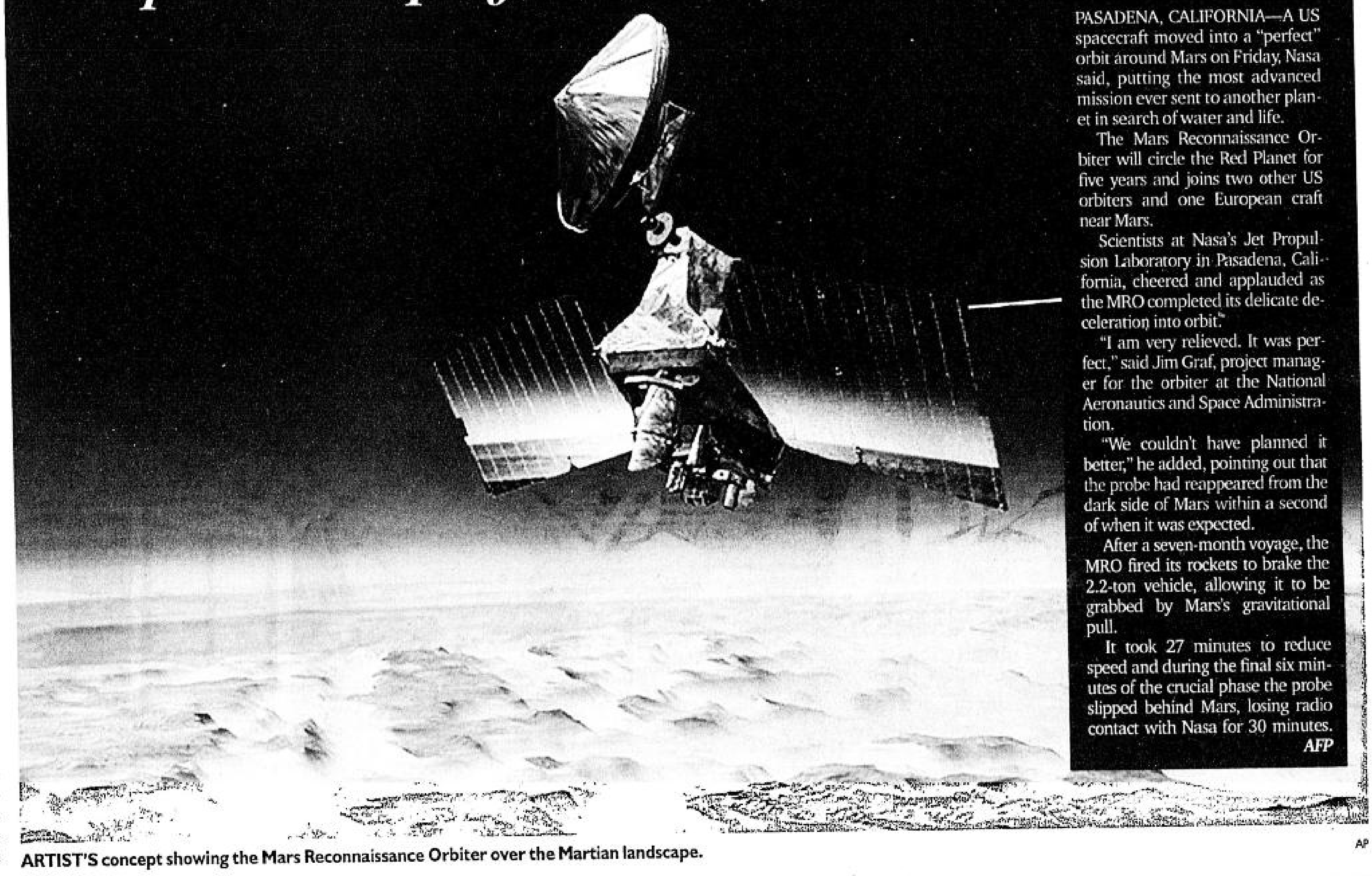
Emirates officials said the decision to delay the free trade talks was unrelated to the port controversy. Bush and his top aides praised the decision of the Dubai company, DP World, to back away from the acquisition, and insisted that it did not signal broad opposition on the part of the United States to investment from Middle East allies.

But even Bush could not completely dismiss concerns that there could be repercussions in the United Arab Emirates and other Middle East countries over widespread suspicion that anti-Arab bias lay at the center of the congressional opposition to the deal.

The deal unraveled abruptly on Thursday when DP World said that, at the direction of Dubai's ruler, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum, it had decided to transfer the leases to manage some of the busiest terminals in the United States to an American company. DP World had acquired the leases as part of its purchase of Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation, a British company, for $6.8 billion.

New York Times News Service

Explorer in 'perfect' orbit around Red Planet



PASADENA, CALIFORNIA—A US spacecraft moved into a "perfect" orbit around Mars on Friday, Nasa said, putting the most advanced mission ever sent to another planet in search of water and life.

The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter will circle the Red Planet for five years and joins two other US orbiters and one European craft near Mars.

Scientists at Nasa's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, cheered and applauded as the MRO completed its delicate deceleration into orbit.

"I am very relieved. It was perfect," said Jim Graf, project manager for the orbiter at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

"We couldn't have planned it better," he added, pointing out that the probe had reappeared from the dark side of Mars within a second of when it was expected.

After a seven-month voyage, the MRO fired its rockets to brake the 2.2-ton vehicle, allowing it to be grabbed by Mars's gravitational pull.

It took 27 minutes to reduce speed and during the final six minutes of the crucial phase the probe slipped behind Mars, losing radio contact with Nasa for 30 minutes. *AFP*

ARTIST'S concept showing the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter over the Martian landscape. AP

Immigrants march in Chicago

CHICAGO—TENS OF THOUSANDS of Mexican and other immigrants held a massive rally in Chicago on Friday to protest proposed changes to US immigration laws.

Waving flags and carrying signs reading "We're people, not criminals" and "Working hands do not deserve handcuffs," they streamed on foot into the downtown area, overwhelming a square at the federal court house where the rally was held.

Chicago police said from 75,000 to 100,000 people were involved in the march and rally.

The target of the protest was legislation sponsored by Rep.

James Sensenbrenner, a Republican from Wisconsin, which passed the US House of Representatives last year and is being considered in the US Senate along with competing proposals.

His bill would make it illegal to assist an undocumented immigrant, something that priests, ministers and other social workers have said would turn those who routinely help immigrants into criminals. *Reuters*

'Top Gun' jets conclude final deployment

By Sonja Barisic

VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA—The US Navy's last F-14 fighter jets, made famous by a grinning Tom Cruise in the movie "Top Gun," arrived home Friday, ending the final combat deployment of the sleek, Cold War-era plane.

All 22 Tomcats of Fighter Squadrons VF-213 and VF-31 arrived in style before they were to entire retirement after a last deployment in Iraq.

They flew together in a giant wedge formation over Oceana Naval Air Station as hundreds of family, friends and sailors cheered. Some wore T-shirts reading "Tomcats Forever" and a banner proclaimed, "Last Fly-In, Baby!"

"Any homecoming is a big deal when you've been away from your family for so long, but this is the last Tomcat cruise," said Lt. Jon Jeck, 42, as he held his 3-year-old son Collin.

"We're putting the premier fighter to sleep. It's a staple of Americana," Jeck said.

The F-14 squadrons, which are part of Carrier Air Wing Eight, flew 10,000 sorties during the deployment, but suffered no losses despite logging more than 30,000 flight hours, including 3,000 hours delivering 52 bombs and air-to-ground missiles in support of coalition troops in Iraq.

AN F-14D Tomcat taxis into launch position on the flight deck aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt. AP

They had been aboard the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt, which was to return Saturday to nearby Norfolk Naval Station after a six-month deployment.

The "Black Lions" of VF-213 will begin the transition to the F/A-18F Super Hornet right away. The "Tomcatters" of VF-31 will continue flying F-14s until September, then begin switching to the Super Hornet in October.

"If you want to think about airplanes that have defined the air age, this would have to be on the short list," military analyst John Pike said of the F-14, the two-seat fighter with signature retractable wings glamorized in the 1986 Tom Cruise movie "Top Gun."

The F-14 entered service in the early 1970s and was intended to defend US aircraft carriers from Soviet bombers carrying long-range cruise missiles, said Pike, director of GlobalSecurity.org, an Alexandria research center on security issues.

"The general view is that an aircraft carrier would be hard to sink. One reason is that you can never get close to it, and the Tomcat is the reason why," Pike said.

But "today, you're much less worried about maritime patrol aircraft coming after you and a lot more worried about dropping bombs on the bad guys," Pike said.

After the demise of the Soviet Union in 1991, the Navy "made some effort to turn the thing into a Bombcat, but it was not designed as a bomb hauler," Pike said. "They would rather have a new plane … than try to teach an old cat new tricks."

The USS Theodore Roosevelt was to return Saturday to the Norfolk Naval Station after a six-month deployment.

More than 7,500 sailors are on the ships of the Roosevelt strike group. *AP*

Spain remembers dead in Europe's own 9/11

MADRID—SPANISH PRIME Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero and main opposition leader Mariano Rajoy were to pay a midday homage on Saturday to the victims of the March 11, 2004 Madrid train bombings.

Islamic extremists sympathetic to al-Qaida claimed responsibility for planting the 10 bombs on four trains in an apparent revenge attack for Spanish participation in the US-led invasion of Iraq.

The blasts killed 191 people and injured some 1,900 others in the country's worst ever terrorist attack.

Two children, one of Algerian origin, from San Ildefonso school will lay a wreath and flowers will also be laid at Atocha station, where the "trains of death" were headed.

The prime minister will pay his respects at the Forest of the Absent, which Spain's king and queen inaugurated last year in the capital's Retiro park. The memorial includes 192 cypress and olive trees—one for each of the victims and a police officer killed two weeks after the blasts when seven key suspects blew themselves up.

Joining the national commemorations will be a group of community leaders and dignitaries from the Moroccan town of Nador, who set off on March 5 for Madrid.

Also attending will be Moroccan ambassador to Spain Omar Azziman.

Most of the suspects are Moroccan nationals and charges are soon due to be brought for a trial set to last a year.

BODIES lined up in Spain's worst terrorist attack. AP

Spanish victims' associations will be keeping a low profile amid their own private grief, as they did 12 months ago.

With Saturday marking the EU's second European day for terror victims, the Association for the Victims of Terrorism will nonetheless read out texts to the victims of terrorism in general Spain's Federation of Muslim Groups (Feeri) on Friday condemned terrorism and offered support for the families of the bomb victims. *AFP*

Double whammy for Italy's Berlusconi

ROME—ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER SILVIO Berlusconi was hit Friday by corruption charges and the resignation of a cabinet minister in an unrelated political scandal, a double whammy less than a month before the country votes in a general election.

The two developments come as Berlusconi's centre-right coalition is battling a difficult campaign for the April 9 and 10 vote, trailing the centre-left coalition led by Romano Prodi in the polls.

The prosecutor's office in Milan has requested that Berlusconi and David Mills, whose wife Tessa Jowell is a minister in the cabinet of British Prime Minister Tony Blair, face trial over allegations of bribery in exchange for false testimony, media reports said.

Under Italian law a judge will have to decide whether to send the case to court for trial, a process that could take months.

The charge centres on an alleged bribe of $600,000 paid to Mills in 1997 by a company run by Berlusconi's family in return for favourable testimony for the tycoon at corruption trials that year and again in 1998.

"Once again, and just before the elections, certain lawyers are voluntarily giving up the search for truth to pursue political goals," said Sandro Bondi, national coordinator for Berlusconi's Forza Italia.

Both Berlusconi and Mills deny the allegations.

The funds, which Mills says came from a shipowner, were used to pay off a mortgage on a house that Mills and Jowell shared in north London after passing through a number of bank accounts.

Jowell and Mills announced their separation last weekend. Blair has said he stands by her, and a parliamentary commission has cleared her of wrongdoing.

The latest charges stem from an investigation against Berlusconi, which is still running, accusing him of fraud over the purchase of film rights for his media group Mediaset.

Prosecutors suspect the price of those rights was artificially inflated by intermediary companies in order to set up off-shore slush funds.

Mills has been tied to the creation of off-shore companies and tax-haven bank accounts for Fininvest, Berlusconi's holding group, which allegedly paid the bribe for favourable testimony.

Later Friday, Berlusconi suffered another blow when Health Minister Francesco Storace resigned after he was suspected of spying on his political opponents, a ministry spokesperson said.

"The mere suspicion that I could engineer political manoeuvrings against political adversaries makes me sick and indignant," Storace said in a statement. *AFP*

BERLUSCONI: In trouble again. AFP

Thaksin offers talks as foes plan new rally

BANGKOK—THAI PRIME MINISter Thaksin Shinawatra Saturday offered to meet with his opponents in a bid to break the political deadlock threatening the April 2 election.

Thaksin repeated the offer in a series of television interviews, just two days before rivals seeking to oust him plan another overnight rally and a march on his office during his Tuesday cabinet meeting.

"We are trying to convince them to talk. I want to meet them but they play quite hard ball," Thaksin told CNN in an interview.

Thaksin reiterated that he would not bow to protesters' demands for his resignation.

"Why should I resign? If I resigned, I would be betraying the people who support me. After April 2, everything will be clear. I am ready to quit, but only through a democratic process," he told Thailand's Channel 9 television.

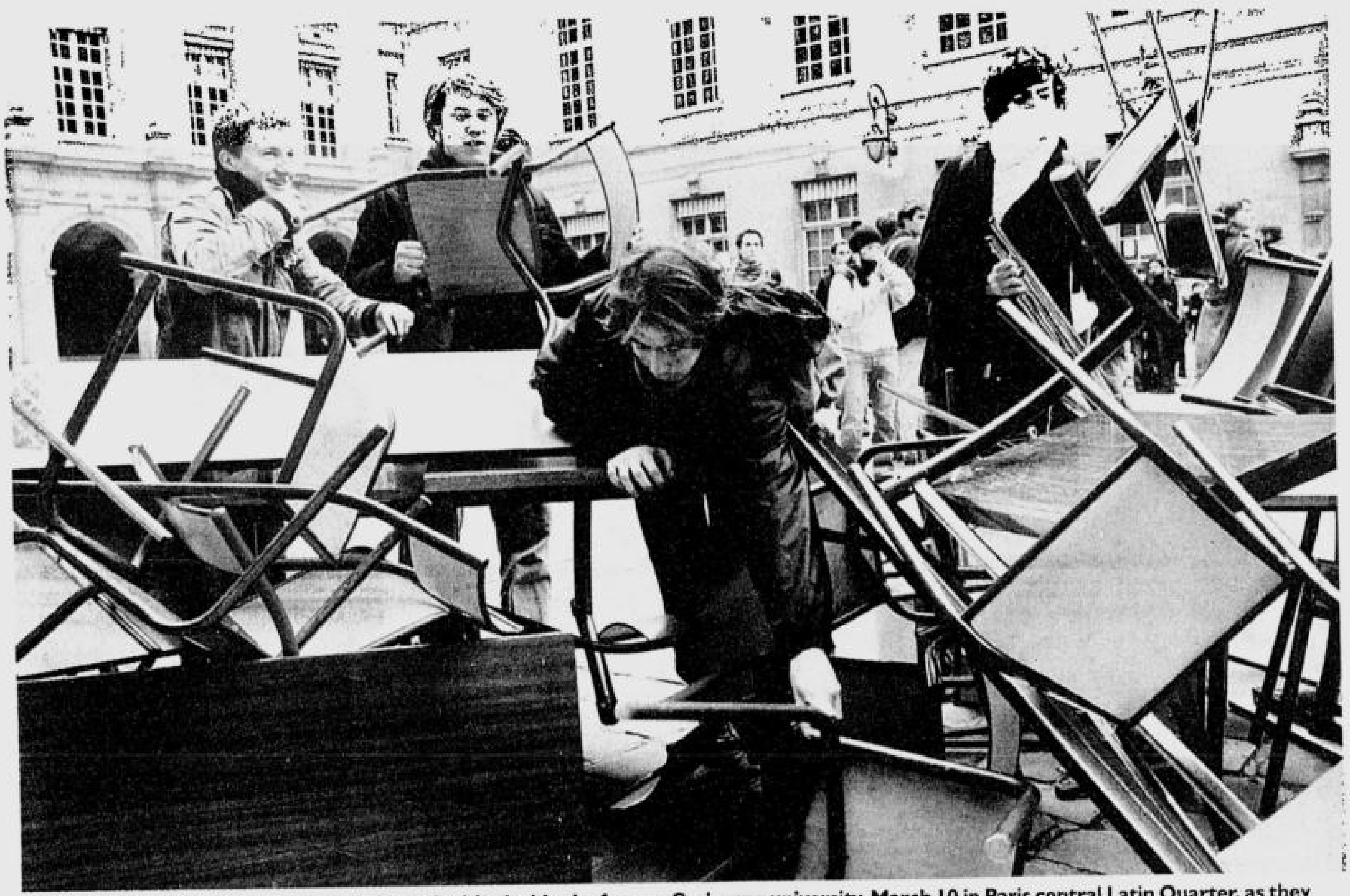
"So PAD can name its representative, the three opposition parties can send one representative. I want to reassure you that I haven't done anything wrong," he said.

THAKSIN REUTERS

The People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD), a loose coalition of anti-Thaksin groups, got a major boost Friday when Thailand's most powerful unions threw their support behind its campaign and urged their 300,000 members to join the protest.

That added to pressure on Thaksin, who also faces an election boycott by the three leading opposition parties, threatening to deepen the political crisis.

Both PAD and the opposition parties were meeting Saturday to consider the offer. *AFP*



STUDENTS build barricades with chairs and tables inside the famous Sorbonne university, March 10 in Paris central Latin Quarter, as they protest against the first employment contract which allows an employer to lay off the employee during the first two years of employment. AFP

Sorbonne students, French riot police clash

PARIS—FRENCH RIOT POLICE STORMED Paris' famous Sorbonne university early Saturday, where hundreds of students were holed-up, a police source said, following sometimes violent protests against a new labor law.

Eleven officers were injured during the operation, according to the local prefecture, and there were several arrests. Another 20 police officers were injured in scuffles and clashes on Friday.

One student and a photographer were also injured.

Protest action also occurred at many other universities throughout the country on Friday.

The police action in Paris, which began just before 4 a.m. ended within 10 minutes with the evacuation of some 400 student activists.

Police said there was no one left in the building after three nights of occupation.

Police used teargas and batons to push the students to the exit, an AFP correspondent said.

Shouts of "they're here," and "they arrived, barricade the doors," could be heard from inside as the riot police began to move on the university building.

Dozens of students, men and women in their early 20s from various Paris universities, improvised barricades and hurled objects at the approaching helmeted officers.

At around 4:15 a.m. emergency services arrived to offer first aid to one person lying on the pavement after the police action.

The students had attempted to confront the antiriot police, forming a human chain and chanting "peaceful resistance." *AFP*

Number of China convicts up as courts battle judge shortage

BEIJING—THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE CHINA convicted last year grew as fast as the national economy, but a shortage of judges means the courts are clogging up, the Chinese chief justice told parliament on Saturday.

The president of the Supreme People's Court, Xiao Yang, told the National People's Congress that in 2005 courts had sentenced 844,717 citizens, a rise of 10 percent over 2004.

China's economy grew 9.9 percent in 2005.

He said 131,869 people were sentenced to jail terms of 5 years or longer, including death penalties—a fall of about 14,000 on last year. Xiao did not specify how many were executed.

China does not release numbers of how many citizens it executes each year. Human rights group Amnesty International estimated that in 2004 the courts issued death sentences to at least 6,000 citizens, and probably many more.

Xiao said courts in the wealthy coastal regions and big cities were overwhelmed with cases, while those in the poorer west had been losing young judges to more lucrative work.

Chinese citizens are increasingly turning to courts for redress, and Xiao reported that citizens continued to "complain quite fiercely" about judges' failure to enforce judgements.

"Coordinating and balancing public powers against the rights of citizens, corporations and other organizations are becoming issues of widespread social concern," Xiao said. *Reuters*

TWO Chinese cycle in heavy snow on a street in Beijing March 11. REUTERS

WORLDBRIEFS

22nd bird flu death confirmed

JAKARTA—Indonesia on Friday said two more children were confirmed to have died from bird flu, taking the country's death toll from the virus to 22. Health ministry spokesperson Sumardi said the latest victim was a 12-year-old girl who died March 1. Earlier Friday, the ministry said that a three-year-old who died last month had been killed by the H5N1 bird flu strain. "Now we have 22 deaths out of 30 confirmed victims," the spokesperson said. *AFP*

Diplomats caught smuggling whiskey

BRASILIA, Brazil—Brazilian police on Friday dismantled a network of foreign diplomats, including some from Iraq and African countries, who had used their privileges to sell whiskey, perfume and other luxury goods to high society in the capital Brasilia. The gang involved 20 diplomats at the embassies of Iraq, Syria, Angola, Senegal, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Syria, federal police said. "The criminal scheme included embassy officials with diplomatic status," the police said in a statement. Over the past three years the group sold more than three million reais ($1.4 million) worth of contraband whiskey, perfume and other imported tax-free luxury goods. Using their rights to diplomatic tax exemptions, they made profits of up to 300 percent. The foreign officials could not be arrested due to their diplomatic immunity, the police said. *Reuters*

Ex-Bush aide accused of thefts

WASHINGTON—Claude Allen, President George W. Bush's former top domestic policy adviser, was arrested this week in Maryland for allegedly swindling two stores out of more than $5,000, the Washington Post reported on Saturday, quoting Montgomery County police. Allen, 45, of the Washington suburb of Gaithersburg, Maryland, was released on his own recognizance and awaits trial on two charges, felony theft scheme and theft over $500, according to Lt. Eric Burnett, a police spokesperson, the paper said. Allen is accused of swindling Target and The Hecht Co. out of more than $5,000 in a refund scheme, the Post reported. Allen, a former deputy secretary in the Department of Health and Human Services, was appointed the president's top domestic policy adviser last year at the start of Bush's second term. He resigned last month. *Reuters*

US interior secretary resigns

WASHINGTON—Gale A. Norton announced Friday that she was resigning as interior secretary, saying that she had accomplished much of what she had intended to do, and hinting at fatigue. "I'm a Westerner at heart and I am looking forward to getting back to the West," Norton, whose resignation is effective at the end of the month, said. Norton had been on the job for five years. She was at the nexus of many controversies, including drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and other sensitive areas, administration of the Endangered Species Act, handling of trust money for Indian tribes, and collection of royalties due the federal government for natural gas drilling on public lands. During her tenure, snowmobiles returned to Yellowstone, and extensive areas were opened up for drilling and mining, although the Arctic refuge was not. She also presided over the department as it became enmeshed in a corruption scandal involving the lobbyist Jack Abramoff. *NYT News Service*

The sun is going away, but don't panic

ABUJA—The Nigerian government, anxious to avoid a repeat of riots that marked a solar eclipse in 2001, warned citizens they may suffer "psychological discomfort" during a new eclipse this month but urged them not to panic. Information Minister Frank Nweke said an eclipse five years ago caused riots in northern Borno state because people did not know why it happened. "Some people even felt some evil people in their communities were responsible for the eclipse," he said in a statement on Thursday aimed at reassuring Nigerians that the eclipse is expected to darken parts of the country on March 29. "The eclipse is not expected to have any real damaging effect, only social and psychological discomforts are envisaged," Nweke said. *Reuters*

Chile swears in one-time exile as first female president

SANTIAGO, CHILE—MICHELLE Bachelet, who as a young socialist medical student was jailed, tortured and exiled by her country's armed forces, was preparing on Saturday to become Chile's commander in chief and first woman president.

On the eve of her inauguration, Bachelet called Chile's acceptance of a female president "a historic, unprecedented fact."

The 54-year-old former health and defense minister has said that she will decisively increase the participation of women in government and politics.

She already appointed a cabinet with an equal number of men and women, and has vowed to do the same in some 300 decision-making positions in the government. She promises also to promote legislation that would force political parties to include a certain percentage of female candidates.

On Friday, Bachelet greeted foreign leaders flocking to her inauguration to watch what is widely seen as a major cultural and political change in a traditionally male-dominated, conservative society.

The visitors include several women—Prime Minister Helen Clark of New Zealand, Vice President Fatemeh Javadi of Iran and US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice were scheduled to attend the inauguration Saturday at the congressional building in the port city of Valparaiso, 120 km northwest of Santiago.

After meeting with leftist Bolivian President Evo Morales, Bachelet said that "it is a historic, unprecedented fact that a woman will be Chile's president, and it's also a historic fact that an Aymara (Indian) is president of Bolivia." *AP*

Exciting welcome prizes await SM Sta. Rosa shoppers

Bigger savings and more choices are guaranteed to delight Laguna shoppers at the newly-opened branches of SM Department Store and SM Supermarket in Sta. Rosa

The newly-inaugurated branches of SM Department Store and SM Supermarket in Sta. Rosa are holding a joint raffle event as the centerpiece of their welcome offerings to shoppers in Laguna and neighboring communities.

SM DEPARTMENT STORE

NOW OPEN
STA.ROSA

SUPERMARKET • SUPERMARKET • SM

get a chance to

Win Weekly

at stake **20** Nokia N70 Cellphones

5 Winners Weekly

N70
NOKIA
Menu
Messages
Contacts
Logs
Gallery
Calendar
Settings
Manager
Web
Operator
Options
Exit

Every P500 single receipt purchase entitles you to join from Feb 17 to Mar 16

SMART
Simply amazing!

See mechanics posters for details.
Per DTI-IV-A 02-012, Series of 2006

Weekly Winners

A total of 20 Nokia N70 cellphones will be given away as prizes to the lucky shoppers (5 cellphones / 5 winners weekly). Every P500 single receipt purchase at **SM Department Store** or **SM Supermarket** gives shoppers a chance to join the raffle which ends on March 16.

The weekly draw dates have been calendared as follows:

1st week - Feb. 24
2nd week - Mar. 3
3rd week - Mar. 10
4th week - Mar. 17

One-stop Shopping

SM Department Store Sta. Rosa showcases a broad range of merchandise including the latest apparel trends, quality home furnishings, toys and baby essentials.

SM Supermarket on the other hand, houses a wide variety of grocery staples including an impressive selection of fresh products, bakery goods, household essentials and personal care items. Clean, well-lit interiors and spacious aisles allow shoppers to easily cart from section to section.

Welcome Gift Packs

Every 500 purchase at SM Supermarket entitles a customer to a welcome pack of fresh fruits. Offer good while supplies last.

Buy 1 take 1

A wide variety of items are tagged for special buys. Shoppers are enjoined to hurry in and avail of this limited offer.

Value Packs

Every Value Pack includes a free SM Bonus item or Panasonic flashlight. This is in addition to up to 80% savings on the featured Value Pack items.

Sunday SPORTS
Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Kings tackle Realtors; Air21-TNT duel today

GINEBRA's Eric Menk tries to foil an attempt by TNT's Asi Taulava.

BARANGAY GINEBRA SHOOTS FOR A SECOND STRAIGHT victory against Sta. Lucia Realty tonight in the Gran Matador Brandy-PBA Philippine Cup at the Araneta Coliseum.

GAMES TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
4:10 p.m.—Air21 vs Talk 'N Text
6:30 p.m.—Ginebra vs Sta. Lucia Realty

An impressive winner over the Talk 'N Text Phone Pals in their debut, the Gin Kings are heavy favorites in the 6:30 p.m. match against the Realtors, who got going on the wrong foot also last week.

The Phone Pals and the Air21 Express try to break into the win column when they collide earlier at 4:10 p.m.

"We will run at the Baywalk area without clothes if we fail to win the championship," said the outspoken Marc Caguioa of Ginebra in a league primer aired by ABC Sports recently.

True to his words, Caguioa set the early scoring record with 39 points against the Phone Pals, sending a clear signal that the crowd favorites are out to settle for nothing less than the championship.

Still, the Gin Kings are not taking any chances against the Realtors, who are coming off a lopsided 88-104 defeat at the hands of the Purefoods Chunkee Giants.

"We cannot risk being complacent against Sta. Lucia," said Barangay Ginebra coach Siot Tanquingcen. "For sure, they (Realtors) will bounce back."

Jayjay Helterbrand and Caguioa are fast recovering from injuries as shown by their double-barreled onslaught against the Phone Pals.

After swapping players after the last conferenc, it would be interesting to see how Mark Telan, John Ferriols, Vergel Meneses and Patrick Fran fare against their former teams.

Telan exchanged places with Ferriols, who now acts as one of Asi Taulava's backups, while Meneses jumped over to the Phone Pals following his release from Red Bull.

Meneses also played for the Express under now Talk 'N Text coach Derrick Pumaren.

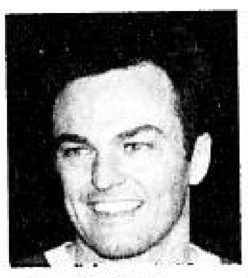
Before Air21 coach Bo Perasol took over, Pumaren and Talk 'N Text assistant coach Bong Ramos had taken turns calling the shots for the Express in the past.

The Express fell prey to the Coca-Cola Tigers in their debut and also missed spitfire Ronald Tubid and Gary David. Tubid sprained his ankle while David is resting a sore elbow.

June Navarro

Controversial Compton-Eman trade fizzles out

By Jasmine W. Payo


COMPTON: No go.

THERE WAS, APPARently, much ado about nothing.

The Samigue Eman-Alex Compton trade that sent coach Robert Sison packing from the Montaña camp has fizzled out, according to team officials yesterday.

Rain or Shine did not release Eman, the 6-foot-9 rookie the Montaña management wanted to acquire in exchange for the veteran Compton, who now stays with the Jewels along with mainstays Al Magpayo, Froilan Baguion, Al Vergara and Eric dela Cuesta.

"There was no trade, the team has a 12-man lineup," said Montaña's interim coach Nel Parado, who took over after Sison surprisingly stepped down as head coach last Monday.

The proposed swap caused a rift between Montaña officials and Sison, who questioned the management's decision to trade Compton just weeks before the start of the Philippine Basketball League's Unity Cup.

Montaña later clarified that management had suspended Sison even before he decided to quit. The reason for the suspension was not revealed, however.

Sources said Sison already had a "strained relationship" with the management after he steered the Jewels to their first title in 2005.

Eman, a prized young center from Davao, played for the University of Mindanao and the disbanded RP-Cebuana Lhuillier Team.

Although Rain or Shine turned down the chance to include Compton on its amateur roster, the team definitely wants him on board when it joins the Philippine Basketball Association in October.

Welcoat Paints, the name the franchise will carry in the PBA, had requested permission two weeks ago to allow the American cager to be part of its pro lineup.

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Paeng, Bong to play with special bowlers /A26
■ Vasquez stuns Paragua /A26
■ Bata aims for Japan 9-ball repeat /A27

REYES

Only potential gold medalists for Asiad

THE PHILIPPINES WILL SEND only athletes with legitimate shots at landing medals in the 15th Asian Games in Doha, Qatar this December.

This was the only criteria the Philippine Asian Games task force announced yesterday since other details of the selection of athletes have yet to be approved by the Philippine Olympic Committee.

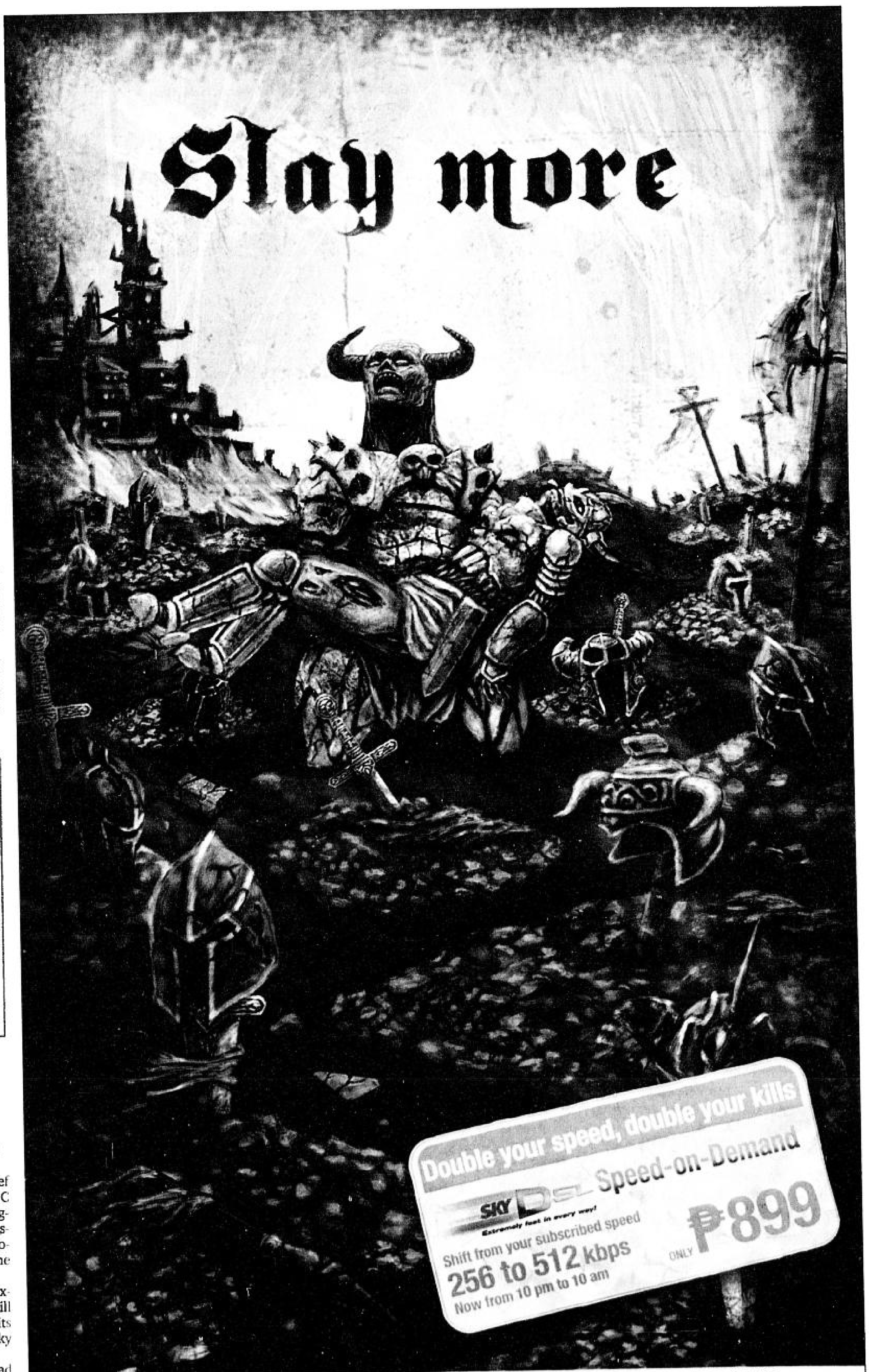
"We cannot reveal what we have discussed because we will still have to give it to the POC for approval," said Richie Garcia, co-chair of the task force. "We don't want to preempt the POC, we're just here to lay down the criteria."

Garcia, who shares chair responsibilities with athletics chief Go Teng Kok, will meet with POC president Jose "Peping" Cojuangco at the former Tarlac Congressman's Dasmariñas residence tomorrow to finalize details of the selection of the athletes.

A separate meeting of the expanded POC executive board will tackle the criteria during its March 15 meeting at the Milky Way restaurant.

Earlier reports said the Asiad delegation could be composed of no more than 200 athletes and that even the gold medal winners, and even record breakers, of last year's Southeast Asian Games are not assured of slots.

Musong R. Castillo


Slay more
Double your speed, double your kills
SKY DSL Speed-on-Demand
Extremely fast in every way!
Shift from your subscribed speed
256 to 512 kbps
Now from 10 pm to 10 am
ONLY ₱899

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED
• Money Back Guarantee
• 24-Hour Quick Repair
WI-FI POWERED BY:
airborne access
Free 1 month subscription | Free SOD access for 1 year | Free unlimited Wi-Fi access to over 200 hotspots nationwide until July 24, 2006 | P500 rebate for every day of delay of service reconnection
Other available packages: 512 to 768 kbps for P1,699 & 1.5 to 2 mbps for P2,699
No need for a landline to subscribe to SkyDSL | Call 449-3118 | Visit www.skydsl.com.ph
Powered by BAYANTEL
A good gamer plays responsibly.

Fernando, Sales share Commanders Cup honors

ANTHONY FERNANDO AND GARry Sales shared top honors with superb rounds in the recent UP Vanguard National Commanders Cup golf tournament at the Ayala Greenfield Golf and Leisure Club in Laguna.

Fernando, who came from a golfing family, conquered the hazard-laden layout with a seven-under-par 65 for the low gross plum while Eagle Ridge-based Sales took the overall crown with a net 11-under 61 score.

Bert Saludes matched the 61 of Sales but had to settle for the Open category plum in the 18-hole tourney staged as a fund-raiser to boost the campaign for a renewed interest on the Reserved Officers Training Corps (ROTC).

Royal Capital Securities Corp. was the main backer of the event organized by The UP Vanguard Inc., the alumni organization of the UP ROTC Corps of Officers.

Hole-in-one sponsors were Turf Company/Club Car, Euromotors Corp., Josol Home Décor Industrial Improvement Center and CICI General Insurance Corp.

Hole sponsors include Ace Hardware and Southeast Asia Foods Inc. while half hole sponsors are No Fear, Camp John Hay Dev't Corp., Alexander's Wear, Levi's Strauss Phil. Inc., VGD Lino Magpantay, VGD Winston Tony Santos, Rep. Francis Nepomuceno, Antonio Evangelista of New Kanlaon Construction, lawyer Elardio Pasamba and Air21/Corporate Air.

The Class A award went to John Sicat, Class B was won by Felix Cortez and Franis Gudani took the Class C crown.

Former Vanguards Bimbo Salazar, Cid Diomampo, Ted Javier, Rene Lirio, Gen. Jimmy delos Santos and Gen. Joe Magno are spearheading a move to stage events aimed at motivating the youth to take up ROTC and install the values of patriotism and love of country especially since college military training is no longer compulsory.

Real Spicy Commish Cup top bet

By Musong R. Castillo

PREPARED HARDER THAN HE has ever been, Real Spicy starts his 2006 stakes campaign today as the odds-on choice in the compact field of the P1 million Philracom Commissioner's Cup.

The winner of the third leg of last year's Triple Crown series, Real Spicy, flashing fearsome form in workouts, will surely be sent off as the outstanding favorite in the 1,800-meter race at the Santa Ana Park.

The race will also mark the first time that the handsome progeny of US Triple Crown winner Real Quiet out of Spicy Tale will run as a four-year-old.

His last run as a three-year-old was close to a month ago and he was awesome, to say the least, clocking a dizzying 1:29 over 1,450 which now stands as the new track mark at the Santa Ana.

"We expect him to win (today)," said sportsman Hermie Esguerra, the Owner of the Year last season. "We have been preparing him hard, hoping he'd also do well in the other big races scheduled for the year."

Jesse B. Guce pilots Real Spicy, who faces seasoned Chariot of Fire, Cool Runnings and stablemate Moab.

First place will be worth P600,000, with the second placer bringing home P225,000.

Ronald Baldonido rides Chariot of Fire, a five-year-old bay mare by Conquistarose out of Chase the Wind, while Val Dilema partners the Treasure Cay-Discreetly offspring Cool Runnings. Patty Dilema will be Moab's partner.

Real Spicy is trying to run in all the big races leading to the PCSO First Gentleman Silver Cup scheduled May 14 at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite.

GLENN Aguilar leads the charge of the Revtex Motocross Team, which snared three victories in the 2006 Supercross in Iloilo City.

Revtex riders dominate

BRAND NEW BIKE, SAME WINNING RESULT.

Glenn Aguilar, brandishing a powerful 2006 KTM250F motorbike, completed a sweep of both the Pro Open and Pro 125 categories, as he led the charge of the mighty Revtex team in the 2006 Supercross International Championship Series at the Sta. Barbara Stadium in Iloilo City.

Mounting his racing machine for the first time in an actual competition, the Revtex Rocket ruled both the first and second motos of the premier Pro Open, fending off the challenge of overall second placer and Jovy Saulog and Bebet dela Cruz, with New Zealand's James Robinson nowhere near the leaders.

Showing that athleticism runs in the family, Aguilar's son McLean, a La Salle Zobel student, provided Revtex's other victory as he topped the 7-under Peewee Class.

Joining the winning fray for Revtex was Nino Garcia, who crushed the opposition in the Beginners' Production category.

"In the Pro Open, my rivals used their powerful 450cc bikes, but I gambled with my new KTM250 and it paid off," said Aguilar. "With my racing machine getting into the groove with my trusted Revtex oil, I was able to unleash those wonderful rides."

Aguilar, who recently was adjudged as the Golden Wheels' International Driver of the Year, was at his best in the second heat of the Pro Open, where he was able to scoot away from his pursuers, led by Saulog, by as much as half a lap.

Davao bets in town for tomorrow's Caddies' tilt

CALATAGAN, BATANGAS—WITH CUTS TO be made in each of the first three rounds, players coming from as far as Sarangani and Davao have started arriving here, eager to get a practice round off as the second staging of the National Caddies' Open starts tomorrow.

Players who fail to break 90 on Tuesday will be eliminated for further play before the field is chopped down to the top 50 percent of scores and ties after 36 holes. The third 18 will be played in Canlubang in Laguna with only the top 20 scores and ties to advance to the final round in Wack Wack on Friday.

Bag-toters from the flat Lanang layout in Davao made their way to this Robert Trent Jones Jr. creation on their own yesterday as the 72-hole event will implement a stringent format to be able to identify only the best.

Last year's field of 146 players is expected to be equaled if not surpassed with only the top three players to make the long-term program of the NCO which hopes to produce a member of the Philippine Team in the future.

"We are very elated with the response we've gotten," said NCO co-chair Hermie Esguerra. "We wish this year's players all the best."

Esguerra will hit the ceremonial drive tomorrow together with co-chair Ben Abalos.

First Gentleman Mike Arroyo has also been invited to open the tournament supported by San Miguel Corp., Pagcor and the Philippine Sports Commission.

Shuttle buses will leave Villamor at 6 a.m. tomorrow. Players are requested to be at the Villamor parking lot not later than 5:30 a.m. to register.

The 72-hole event, the first of its kind in Asia, officially tees off on Tuesday with the practice round scheduled the whole day tomorrow.

Those who make the grade will be taken into the program which will house, feed, train, fund and develop them to become better golfers and persons.

Paeng, Bong playing with special bowlers

BOWLING HALL OF FAMERS Paeng Nepomuceno and Bong Coo head the cast of true-blue athletes who have committed to play with 16 special bowlers in the Special Athlete Celebrity Bowl on March 18 at the Powerbowl at the Rockwell Center in Makati City.

Southeast Asian Games standouts Markwin Tee, Liza Clutario, Ces Yap, Biboy Rivera, Liza del Rosario, Chester King and Jojo Canare have also committed to play with Dublin World Special Olympic Games gold medalists Roxanne Ng, Alfred Abueg, Mark Inductivo, Jonathan Zulueta and veteran internationalists Anton Silos, Robin Clarino, Stephanie Babst, Larry Cruz and Sara Ungson.

IGAN Foundation of GMA anchorman Clavio head the list of major sponsors for the event with Pagcor, Shell Better Mileage Gasoline, Globe Telecom-Sa Globe Posible, ACCEL Sports and Powerbowl.

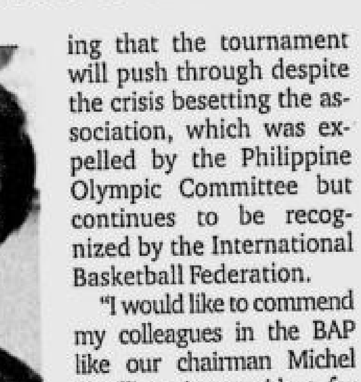
Also supporting the event are Rep. Dodo Ra. Cagas, (1st Dist.-Davao del Sur), Creative Response, Go Nuts Donuts, Unilever and friends of Spaba.

Representatives of the major sponsors will also participate.

Celebrities confirming their participation in the tournament are Jolina Magdangal, Regine Tolentino, Lyn Ching, Anthony Suntay, Macky Fernando and Arnold Clavio.

The Special Athletes Bowling Association (Spaba) headed by lawyer Gani Zulueta, Irene Silos Soledad Ng, Damaso Cruz Jr. and Cristy Gacuma host the fund-raising event.

Vasquez stuns Paragua in Candon chess



PARAGUA

NATIONAL MASTER ANDREW Vasquez stunned top seed GM Mark Paragua in the third round of the Mayor Allen G. Singson Cup dubbed as 2006 Candon City Open Chess Championships at the KEA Mall & Fun Center, in Candon City, Ilocos Sur, Saturday.

The No. 10 seed Vasquez, a former member of the Milo Checkmate coaching staff, skillfully handled the white pieces in their Sicilian Defense game to prevail after 39 moves and up his total to a perfect 3.0 points.

Vasquez shares the lead with International Master Richard Bitoon, 12-year-old Fide Master Wesley So and National Master Emmanuel Senador in the event sanctioned by the National Chess Federation of the Philippines.

"*Nakatsamba lang tayo kay* Mark (Paragua)," said Vasquez, a mainstay of the Technological Institute of the Philippines team during his college days.

Five-time national champion Woman International Master Cristine Rose Mariano also wielded the upset axe at the expense of No. 6 seed FIDE Master Jesse Noel Sales and climbed to 2.5 points.

The No. 25 seed Mariano, younger sister of GM Nelson, on the other hand, beat 1993 US Open champion Sales using the black pieces in 21 moves of a Pirc Defense.

Mariano, a Philippine Air Force enlisted personnel, was in the company of IM Barlo Nadera, Edmundo Gatus, Jan Vincent Paragua, NM Mirabeau Maga, NM Alex Milagrosa and Christian Arroyo.

The 21-year-old Paragua got stuck at 2.0 points in the company of FM Oliver Dimakiling, NM Eduardo Agagon, NM Romeo Amper, Razel Lagman, Balden Corpuz, Jony Habla, Nazario Ubanan.

CORPORATE CUP CHAMPS: Camp John Hay Golf Club chair Robert John Sobrepeña (center) and event founder Cecil Hechanova (3rd from right) join the members of Group I champion Le Chef during the awarding ceremonies of the 18th Philippine Corporate Cup golf tournament recently at the 19th Tee of Camp John Hay in Baguio City. Showing off their trophies are, from left, Rommel Gomez, Goody Ignacio, Le Chef owner Billy King, Fred Puckett and Ben Liclican. Ignacio also won the individual title.

Sportshouse Sportstacle 2006 slated at Atrium March 16-22

BIG-NAME PERSONALITIES WILL GRACE Sportshouse's Sportstacle 2006 at the Atrium of SM Megamall from March 16-22.

Coach Norman Black and former pro Ed Cordero will teach basketball fundamentals, Allan Caidic and Pido Jarencio will reveal the secret of their 3-point shooting prowess while other PBA and PBL stars will add glitter to the Sportshouse-organized grand affair.

The widest array of top sporting brands at huge discounts will be available. Those interested may participate in sports clinics/demos (taekwondo/basketball/badminton/darts) with the expert. They can also enjoy the fun games in the seven-day affair supported by Dunlop, Kuson, Kix, Prince, Kontrol and Robson.

According to Rot Ordiales, marketing manager of Sportshouse, there will also be a sportswear fashion show featuring the latest designs and styles courtesy of Axis, Accel, Gosen Timesports and Action and Fitness.

Nat'l Students caging elates Lina

LINA

BASKETBALL ASSOCIAtion of the Philippines president Joey Lina expressed elation over the success of the 60th National Students Basketball Championship held recently in Daet, Camarines Norte and Legazpi City in Bicol.

Lina said the fact that West Negros College, a team from Bacolod City in Region VI, won the intercollegiate title, is a testament to the BAP's continuing efforts to discover and nurture basketball talents from the countryside.

The former senator also noted that Iloilo National High School, from the same region, also reached the finals of the secondary division although it eventually lost to Philippine Christian University.

"As the only legitimate national association for amateur basketball in the country, the BAP has long advocated the development of basketball in the grassroots level," said Lina. "This is why we continue to come up with tournaments like this to discover and nurture basketball talents who will one day carry the country's colors in international tournaments."

At the same time, Lina said the tournament would not have been successful if not for the full support of so many people, especially the heads of the local governments concerned in the Bicol region.

"There are so many people to thank for the success of the tournament in Bicol, but I would like to make special mention of Albay Gov. Fernando Gonzalez, Camarines Norte Gov. Jesus Typoco and Legazpi City Mayor Noel Rosal, provincial board member Ralph Andes and Albay's Sto. Domingo Municipal Mayor Herbie Aguas," said Lina. "Other officials of Camarines Norte, Albay and Legazpi City also deserve our thanks."

Lina also extended his gratitude to the BAP officials who helped in ensuring that the tournament will push through despite the crisis besetting the association, which was expelled by the Philippine Olympic Committee but continues to be recognized by the International Basketball Federation.

"I would like to commend my colleagues in the BAP like our chairman Michel Lhuillier, vice president for Visayas Yayoy Alcoseba, vice president for Luzon Wilson Young, our executive vice president Christian Tan, treasurer Tony Fabico and secretary general Graham Lim for a job well done."

For his part, Lim said he would like to thank the referees, table officials and other BAP officials who made sure that the tournament would run smoothly.

Local yachtsman wins in Singapore

AVID PROFESSIONAL YACHTSMAN Jun Avecilla recently won in the Cruiser-Racer class of the Singapore Straits Regatta, an international yachting competition.

Avecilla skippered Selma Star, a brand new Beneteau 36.7 yacht, to a win in her maiden competition.

The win enabled Avecilla to duplicate the feat of Ray Ordoveza in international yachting competitions. Selma Star also won the IRC B Division of the Standard-Insurance-Smart Infinity Manila to Boracay Race held last mid-February. From April 18-22, Avecilla will participate in the President's Cup Regatta, an annual yacht race which draws competitors from the China Sea Race in Hong Kong.

3-day clinic for Coach E cagefest set

A THREE-DAY BASKETBALL CLINIC IS IN STORE for participants of the Coach E Summer Basketball Tournament set on May 2 at the clubsixfifty in Libis, Quezon City, and the Xavier School in Greenhills.

The clinic set on April 22, 25 and 27 is aimed at giving players from 6 to 16 years old a glimpse of what the pioneering and personalized Coach E approach is all about.

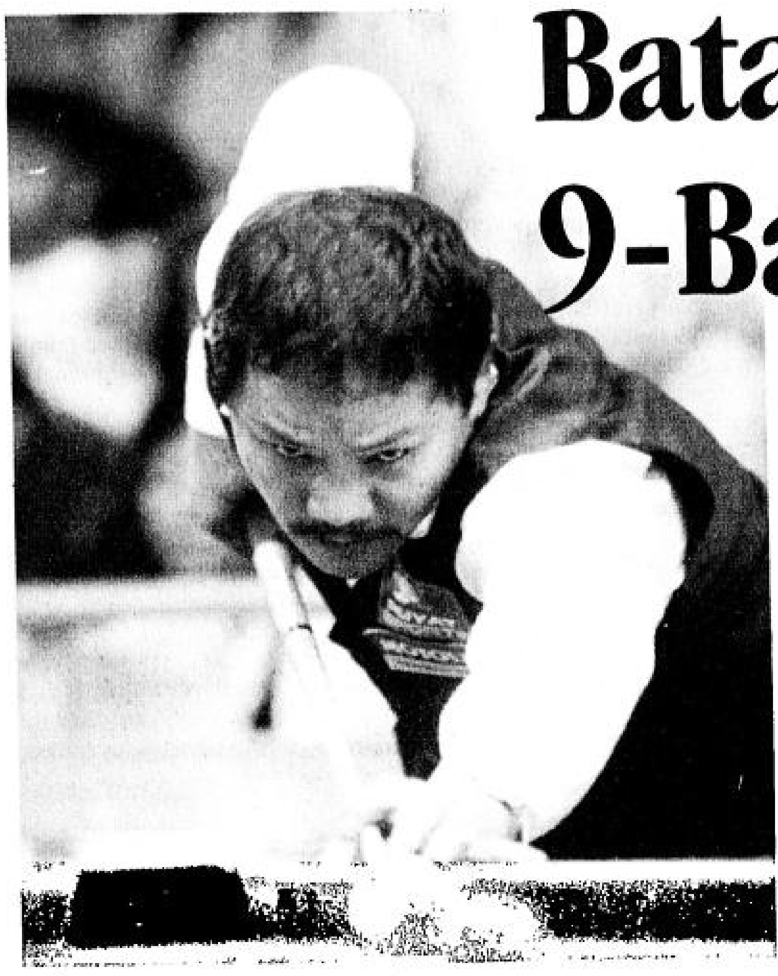
"Individuals or small groups who are part of the tournament will participate in the pre-tournament clinic as a bonus, "said International Basketball Academy (IBA) president Xavy Nunag.

Nunag said individuals are more than welcome to join. "If you're a just an individual who would want to play, then we will find a team for you."

The tournament is set for eight days and will be held every Tuesday and Thursday during the month of May.

Registration will be held at the clubsixfifty from 10 am to 5 pm on March 18 and 25. Contact 6311195 or 09217562639 and e-mail address iba_phil@yahoo.com for details.

Bata aims for Japan 9-Ball Open repeat



EFREN "Bata" Reyes: Ready for tough competition. EDGAR MONTANA

FILIPINO BILLIARDS GREAT EFREN "BATA" Reyes seeks to win the Japan 9-Ball Open for the second straight year against some of the world's best, including countryman Django Bustamante.

Reyes will be eyeing his third major international victory since coming back from an eye operation last year. The 51-year-old won the $200,000 International Pool Tour and the One-Pocket play of the Derby City Classic in Kentucky.

Reyes, together with Bustamante, will depart for Japan on Wednesday. The tournament is set March 17-18 in Tokyo.

"I will do my best," said Reyes, who beat Rodolfo "Boy Samson" Luat in the finals last year.

Southeast Asian Games double gold winner Rubilen "Bingkay" Amit and Iris Rañola will play in the ladies' division with billiards patron Aristeo "Putch" Puyat and Billiards and Snooker Congress of the Philippines (BSCP) president Ernesto "Ernie" Fajardo bankrolling their stint.

"I learned so much in the World Championships in Taipei," the 24-year-old Amit said. "I just hope to use the experience in Japan."

Amit bowed out in the round-of-24 against Charlotte Sorensen of Sweden, 6-7, in her first World 9-ball meet, which was won by Kim Gayoung of South Korea.

Manila to host Asian 9-ball ladies

THE ASIAN LADIES 9-BALL TOURNAMENT will be held April 26 to 28 in Manila, sportsman Aristeo "Putch" Puyat has announced. Rubilen "Bingkay" Amit, the 2005 Southeast Asian Games gold winner, said she's very happy with the turn of events."I'm very happy when I learned from Sir Putch (Puyat) that the Asian ladies will be held here," said Amit in Filipino. "This will be a big help to our players who need international exposure."

Marlon Bernardino, Contributor

Wiloci golf slated

IN CELEBRATION OF ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY this year, the UP Women Lawyer's Circle or WILOCI will hold its 2nd WILOCI Golf Tournament on March 17 at the Tagaytay Midlands, Tagaytay City, lawyer Delia L. Hermoso, head of the group, has announced. For inquiries, call Loi Mallari or Emma Macadangdang at 636-5826.

RACING TIPS

BY TOP CHOICE

Race 1-(Qrt/Tri)-West N Wild (1), Hurry Putter (10), Pangako Sa'Yo (7), Empire Lady (5)
Race 2-(Qrt/Tri)-Epic Energy (3), Magic Bullet (2), Landing Man (7), Patutina (4)
Race 3-(Qrt/Tri)-Kalphia (7), Nothing To declare (9), Manila's Style (10), Renzie Stays (4)
Race 4-(Penta/Tri)-Speed Bullet (1), Casanova (11), Native Prince (3), Deity (1), Carmelita (4)
Race 5-(Qrt/Tri)-La Tienne (6), Control Freak (2), California Lady (1), Dream Cross (3)
Race 6-(Penta/Tri)-Play It Again (11), Magiliw (1), Brazen Truth (10), Kalashnikov (8), Sir Ollzon (9)
Race 7-Moab/Real Spicy (1)
Race 8-(Qrt/Tri)-My Sheikh (8), Court General (9), Magic Dancer (10), Pirouette (14)
Race 9-(Penta/Tri)-Dashing (10), Worth Ur While (4), Solomioh (3), Top Most (8), Mountain Eagle (9)
Race 10-(Qrt/Tri)-Winter's Fury (1), Aryaam (6), Alexis Magic (7), Lord Of All (7)
Race 11-(Penta/Tri)-Chicklet (6), Hurry Prince (9), Aminin (8), Truly Impressive (10), Valiente (14)
Race 12-(Qrt/Tri)-Rockwell (9), La Signoria (14), Gemstone (2), Tini Bambini (10)
Race 13-(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)-Blitzkreig (9), Brittney's Magic (1), Ravishing Raffy (12), Mano Po (11), Revelation (5), Hezabellaglo (2)

Sorry Z

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

NOT TRUE THAT Z GORRES HAD GONE TO AMERICA just once. Twice already.

Not true also that he deserted Rudy Salud. It was Rudy Salud who initiated Gorres' transfer to the stable of Tony Aldeguer, Cebu's most celebrated boxing manager after Wakee Salud.

My mistake. I apologize.

The corrections came from Rudy Salud himself so, who's complaining?

Not me.

My mistake. I apologize.

"I sent Z twice to America mainly to have his skills sharpened and employed a boxing expert there to put more power to his punches," said Salud, talking to me from his bed at home by telephone. "I did that because the first time I saw him fight, I knew he'd be a strong material to become a world champion. He needed only polishing and so, I thought sending him to America would do it."

The ploy paid off as recent events in the boxing career of Z Gorres would prove. Rudy Salud's find has yet to taste a defeat the last two years or so and could very well be on the road to the world throne.

To be sure, I am a fan, too, of Z Gorres and should there be someone out there thinking that I think ill of him, quit the crap.

As proof to my undiminished admiration of Z Gorres, I had devoted an entire column about him a while back, thanks to George Alcantara. Glowingly, I must admit, was the piece I had written about the kid.

One night some time ago, George Alcantara, Rudy Salud's most trusted friend for more than three decades now, introduced me to Z Gorres at the Sulo Restaurant in Quezon City. Almost immediately, I liked Z the minute I shook his rock-hard hand. Very polite and respectful, Z spoke almost in whispers. That evening, it was as though Z wanted to make his fists and not his lips do the talking. I could barely hear him, the words flowing out of his mouth like mere droplets of rain. Barely audible. His eyes would dart and dash, like arrows just released.

"He is a very quiet boy," Rudy Salud said of Z Gorres. "It is not hard to like him. In fact, I found it quite difficult to let go of him. Only when I thought of Tony (Aldeguer) as his new manager did I finally have peace of mind about parting ways with him. There's no better man than Tony who can give Z all the support to make him become our next world champion."

Take a bow, Tony?

And while we are at it, it is not also true that Solar Sports had covered four Manny Pacquiao fights. Six times already. The correction came from a Solar Sports executive who requested anonymity.

"Thank you for highlighting Solar Sports' humble contribution to the Manny Pacquiao saga," came the text-message from a Solar Sports official. "We wish him good luck, as usual, in his next fight and future fights."

***

THANK YOU, THANK YOU. It's nice to hear that George Chua of Red Bull has given P50,000 to Bert Cuevas, the sports editor of Manila Standard/TODAY who is seriously ill with diabetes. May George's tribe increase. I'm sure there are still lots out there who have given help not only to Bert but also to Butch Maniego. Butch is also a fellow journalist-broadcaster who's undergoing kidney dialysis three times a week. There's a fund-raising affair for the two later this month at Merk's Bistro, Greenbelt 3 in Makati. I raise my glass to my colleagues Ed Picson and Beth Celis, who are spearheading the charity show hosted no less by the maestro himself, Richard Merk. Richard is just about the only singer-artist I know whose philanthropic ways are almost without equal. Cheers!

***

FASTBREAK. Seemingly, there was a tinge of sadness etched on the face of Howard Belton during the Unilever Barkada Golf at Wack Wack on March 7. Was it the Unilever chairman's farewell performance? Say it ain't so, Mr. Belton? I was almost tempted to ask Chito Macapagal, the ever dashing, hard-working Unilever golf main cog. Say it ain't so, Chito?

***

Comments to menju@pldtd

SPORTSWATCH

TM Go for Gold goes to Mindanao

MINDANAO BOXING FANS WERE TREATED TO TOUCH MOBILE'S GO FOR gold in General Santos City yesterday. and in Davao City today. The GenSan bets will test the mettle of their counterparts from Saranggani Province at the Magsaysay Park. "The TM Go for Gold in Mindanao is proof of ABAP's commitment to grassroots development," said Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines president Manny Lopez.Sponsors are Pacific Heights and Touch Mobile. The event is being aired NBN4 every Sunday from 9:30 to 10:30 p.m. Rizal Park will host the Davao City event with the Almendras Gym as an alternate venue. Tres de Mayo Holiday Bus boxing team tackles Davao City. Lopez also thanked GenSan Mayor Pedro Acharon Jr and Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte for their support.

Featherweight bout in Fistorama

FISTORAMA FEATURES THIS AFTERNOON AN EXCITING TEN-ROUND BOUT IN the featherweight division between top-ratedJack Asis and Rodney Alba. The bout was the main event in promoter Edgardo "Boy" Cantada's fight card held recently at the Damayan Covered Court in Barangay Pinagbuhatan, Pasig City. Fistorama is shown twice weekly through ABS-CBN Global's The Filipino Channel/Pinoy Central TV. Fistorama, supported by Tanduay, PCSO, Hope and Mapecon, is aired at 3:30 p.m., Sundays on RPN-9. Golf Power Plus airs at 3 p.m. featuring College of St. Benilde Team 1 against College of St. Benilde Team 2

Dalawahan active chess begins

THE MCC DALAWAHAN ACTIVE CHESS BEGINS AT 11 A.M. TODAY AT THE lower second floor of St. Francis Square at Doña Julia Vargas cor Bank Drive behind SM Megamall in Mandaluyong City. The competition is a team event composed of two players. Each entry can field a master provided the team's average active rating doesn't exceed 2050. The master can play in Board One only. Up for grabs is a total pot of P15,000 with the champion tandem getting the top purse of P5000. Entry fee per team is P700. Interested parties are advised to register at least before the tournament starts or call 826-8560 and 0916-852-1069 or 0922-539-7392.

Aguilar hosts Las Piñas derby today

FORMER MAYOR NENE AGUILAR WILL HOST THE WEBBER 45 3- COCK DERBY, featuring 51 fights, tonight at the air- conditioned Las Pinas Coliseum. The first fight is set at 7. For an entry fee of P5,500, the cash prize at stake is P150,000. Last March 4, Batangas breeder Mandy Garcia topped the special 4- cock derby when his MG Farms entry posted four win. Up next at LPC is another 3- cock event on Wednesday, March 15 with Mario Blanco as host. The Pamigay Premyo 3- cock derby is also slated on March 23 and 25, with P150,000 in guaranteed prize going to the winners. Entry fee is P2,200. Interested parties may contact the LPC office: 873 - 1040 and 874 -3910 (look for Julius).

45 entries listed for Jobo cockfest

THE NUMBER OF CONFIRMED ENTRIES FOR THE JOBO 5-COCK DERBY BLASTing off at the Makati Coliseum on March 27 has reached 45 as of yesterday. Participants in the event sponsored by B-Meg Derby Ace include Ric de Guzman, Boy Royo, Boy Javier, Louie Cua, Mayor Eddie Alarilla, Willie Villarica, Mayor Nene Aguilar, Elwin Javelosa, Jun Zuniga, Rep. Baby Asistio, Ram Lopez, Col Katigbak, Max Roxas and Philip Chiongbian. Host Lito Orillaza, one of WTJ Sports and Amusement Corp.'s top honchos, said the guaranteed prize is P1 million. Meanwhile, the "Super Pacman 5- cock derby" unfolds tomorrow with 70 fights on tap. Boxing icon Manny Pacquiao, who arrived from Hong Kong yesterday, will host the derby. For inquiries, call 896 -3545 and 895 -6475.

Araneta 5-cocker set on Tuesday

BIG TIME COCKFIGHTING RESUMES AT THE ARANETA COLISEUM ON TUESDAY and Thursday (March 14 and 16) with the staging of For Team Philippines 5- cock derby. Part of derby proceeds will be given to national athletes, according to derby host Peping Cojuangco, president of the Philippine Olympic Committee. Meanwhile, the second leg of the Philippine Heritage Cup 5- cock derby sizzles on March 21 and 23, with P1.2 million at stake. Entry fee is P10,000. The event is being held under the auspices of the Luzon – Based Gamefowl Breeders Association (LBGBA). For inquiries, contact LBGBA office: 926-7808 /924-5072/924-5051 (loc. 128).

JVC reg'l badminton in Cebu

FOCUS WILL BE ON THE local bets when the JVC Regional Badminton Championships start its four-leg provincial circuit beginning April 3-7 at the Holiday Spa in Banilad, Cebu City. Last year's winners Spyro Mijares of University of San Jose-Recoletos and Hazel Peroy of University of Cebu are expected to go all out for their second straight victories in their respective divisions in the elite side in this third staging of the event sponsored by JVC (PHILS.), Inc. For details, check website at www.jvcbadminton.com or e-mail at jvcbadminton@hotmail.com or call 0917-8050702 (Tonette); 0917-8050601 (Carol); 0917-5288970 (Nelson).

Basketball at Internet

HOOP JUNKIES CAN now get their daily dose of cage action in a click of a mouse. Visit www.gameface.ph and enter into a cyber universe that focuses on Philippine amateur basketball. Gameface.ph is the official internet media portal of several amateur tournaments, including the Fr. Martin Cup and the Home and Away League, as well as other events leading up to the next UAAP and NCAA seasons. Recently, it created specific School-Team Sites and forums for the most popular varsity teams in the country. President and CEO Henry B. Abes created the site in October 2005.

Alam mo ba na ang ating PUSO
ay isa sa WALANG KAPAGURANG ORGAN
ng ating katawan? Gaano ito kahalaga sa PAGPAPANATILI
ng ating IBAYONG LAKAS? Paano NAKAKATULONG ang TEAVIGO
at L-CARNITINE sa pagkakaroon ng MALUSOG na PUSO?
Handa ka na bang ALAMIN ang KASAGUTAN?
Tumutok ngayong LINGGO, MARCH 12, 2006 sa....

RATED K
HANDA NA BA KAYO?

A public service program brought to you by:
FITRUM L-Carnitine and Green Tea Extract

Healthy Heart. Full of Energy.

Available at all Mercury, Watson's, and leading drugstores nationwide
www.herbsandnature.com.ph: 995-7380

Isinbayeva targets another world reco

MOSCOW—TERRENCE Trammell recovered from a disappointing third-place sprint finish to easily advance from the first round of 60-meter hurdles at the World Indoor Championship on Saturday.

Trammell won his heat in 7.64 seconds, a day after having to settle for bronze medal in the 60-meter dash.

"It was disappointing, I had a bad start, and that's that," Trammell said. "I had to get back and focus on my other race. There is a lot of work to be done."

The American had been seeking an unprecedented sprint-hurdle double. He won the 2001 indoor hurdles title and had his first attempt at the double ruined in 2003 by an injury.

Trammell returns for the hurdles semifinal and final later Saturday and still has a chance of winning a medal in both events.

Cuban newcomer Dayron Robles, 19, cruised home in 7.55 seconds to lead all qualifiers.

"It was my first race ever indoors and it felt well," Robles said. "Let's see what happens in the next rounds."

Dominique Arnold of the United States stumbled slightly coming off the final hurdle to finish well behind Robles in 7.67.

"I felt a little sluggish. I'm not used to the track, it's a bit bouncy," Arnold said.

In her first championship appearance since surviving a car accident in Florida in 2002 that killed her mother and a friend, Michelle Freeman of Jamaica ran the fastest heat in the women's hurdles in 7.90, just one hundredth slower than her season's best.

Freeman won the indoor title in 1997 and took silver in 2001.

The 36-year-old, who raced to World Indoor gold in 1997 and silver in 2001, cruised to a 7.90 win, just one one hundredth shy of her seasons best.

"I'm in good shape," Freeman said. "It doesn't matter if I start on a high note or not. I just know that I'll be there."

World decathlon champion Bryan Clay of the United States led after two events in the heptathlon by 151 points over perennial rival Roman Sebrle, the Olympic champion from the Czech Republic.

Sebrle was last in the 60-meter dash but came back in the long jump by soaring 7.76 meters and leading the second event all the way. Clay landed a jump of 7.74, however, to stretch his overall lead.

While the first day belonged to the Americans, the Russians were hoping to make up ground Saturday.

The US team won three of the first four finals, including the two 60-meter sprints.

Leonard Scott ran the fastest time in the world this year to win the men's 60 and Me'Lisa Barber did the same in the women's.

On Saturday, though, the attention was on the star of the Russian team, world and Olympic champion pole vaulter Yelena Isinbayeva who is aiming for her 20th world record.

Of the previous 19, 11 were outdoors and eight came indoors—but none came in Russia.

With a new coach, Isinbayeva's biggest competition could come from Russian compatriot Svetlana Feofanova, who looked confident in clearing 4.50. Two Polish vaulters, Anna Rogowska and Monika Pyrek, also are medal contenders.

Isinbayeva already has improved her indoor record this season, clearing 4.91 meters in Donetsk, Ukraine, on Feb. 12. She has dominated women's pole vaultin years and holds the outdoor mark

On Friday, US sprinters dominat Reese Hoffa won the men's sho the only non-American winner wa la Blonska of Ukraine in the pentat

Scott ran 6.50 seconds to win medal after having earlier wor semifinal in the same time. Barber clocked 7.01 seconds to edge world 100-meter outdoor champion Lauryn Williams, who was given the same time. *AP*

New Improved MILO wins big in the Philippines

Top riders arrive for masters' race

THE BULK OF THE PARTICIPATING foreign delegation is expected to fly in next week in time for the FIM-UAM 2006 Motocross Masters of Asia set March 18-19 at the Puerto Princesa City motocross racetrack adjacent near the City Hall.

Preparations for event supervised by Puerto Princesa City mayor himself Edward Hagedorn and City Administrator lawyer Agustin Rocamora are on its final stages and will be ready for practice by next week.

"We're hoping to duplicate, if not surpass, the success of the past two stagings here," said Hagedorn. "And with the number of tuorists coming in for the event, we hope to firm up Puerto Princesa's tag as the Sports Tourism Capital of the country."

Over 40,000 local townsfolk are expecting the exciting showdown in Round 2 of the 2006 FIM-UAM Asia-Pacific Motocross Championship organized by the NAMSSA and supported by the City of Puerto Princesa, the Philippine Sports Commission, Department of Finance and the Bureau of Customs and Bureau of bImport Services.

The intricate track design, approved by the FIM Motocross Commission, will surely add flavor to the brewing rivalry between New Zealand ace James Robinson and the Philippines' multititled champ Glenn Aguilar.

The uphill and downhill routes, the treacherous narrow turns, the triple jumps, the woop-de-doos, and the challenging table top will surely put their skills and strategy to test.

Aside from that, the two top favorites will have to survive the big challenge from equally strong contenders Teddy Otsuka of Japan, Aep Dadang Supriatna and Denny Orlando of Indonesia, Jye Harvey of Australia and defending champion Arnon "Turbo" Theplib of Thailand for the coveted crown in the centerpiece 125cc class, the Mayor Edward S. Hagedorn Cup, a sterling silver trophy.

For details, email namssa01@hotmail.com or call 0917-8992363 or check out www.asiamx.org or www.namssamoto.org.

SWEDISH Annika Sorenstam eyes the ball in the ninth hole during the first day of the LPGA Tour Mexican Open in Bosque Real, Mexico State. See story *on page 32* AFP

85 million Pinoys enjoy something more nutritious, more delicious everyday

Raik qual

MANAMA—KIMI R plete a lap in qualify Bahrain Grand Prix a pected rear suspensic

The Finn brought three sessions after The McLaren's rear w rear right wheel traili

Under a new form fying is divided into t cars in each of the fi nated.

The final 10 driver 20 minute session.

Raikkonen, overal en victories, nursed

Manila

TOP WATER SPOR converge at the Ma Roxas Blvd. for the 4 mer Sea Sports Festiva

The event will feat events such as drago beach volleyball, and tition.

An interesting side the Bancathon Festiva two races: Stock race fied) race.

Organizers said th engine for Stock race e dard 16-horsepower B for the Formula race

Renault Club holds Bahrain GP party

THE MILD SEVEN RACING F1 Club will celebrate the start of the primetime F1 races with a kick-off viewing party of the Bahrain Grand Prix (GP) on Sunday, March 12, 7 p.m., at the Aruba in Metrowalk in Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City.

Fans can look forward to a night of thrill and fun especially after the Mild Seven Renault team finished an exceptional season last year and is gunning for a back-to-back world championship this year.

A live coverage of the action will be shown on wide screens at the venue and there will be numerous games with authentic Mild Seven Renault F1 Team merchandise at stake as prizes.

The Sakhir circuit where the Bahrain GP will be held was formerly a picturesque oasis which was once a camel farm nestled in the Bahrain desert.

Expert track designers took about two years to carve out a state-of-the-art racing facility in what mostly used to be dry, rocky wilderness.

The Mild Seven F1 Club is open to all race enthusiasts 18 years old and above.

Basketball makes Games debut

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA—BASKETball makes its Commonwealth Games debut in Melbourne with host nation Australia the overwhelming favourites in a tournament weakened by high-profile absences.

The Games will feature eight-nation competitions for men's and women's basketball but the event's timing means many professional players based in Europe and North America have been unable to make the long trip to Australia.

Australian Lauren Jackson, widely regarded as the best women's player in the world, is attending but NBA first draft pick Andrew Bogut will not play in front of his hometown crowd because of commitments with his Milwaukee Bucks.

Canada, potentially one of Australia's major challengers alongside New Zealand's Tall Blacks, decided against sending any basketballers to Melbourne because it was so concerned about the the unavailability of top players.

Canada Basketball chief executive Fred Nykamp said recently that he disliked his country missing an international tournament but saw little benefit in sending a team of developing players to face Australians and New Zealanders who have just finished their professional domestic seasons.

"They would be up against Australia and New Zealand, who are retaining all of their pros," Nykamp said.

"It was a real contrast for us, we were struggling to put anything together, and at the end, we felt it was best to pass—results are a concern but not our only concern."

Nigeria are considered the tournament's next strongest basketball nation after Australia and New Zealand, although Australian men's coach Brian Goorjian believes England could also pose a threat. *AFP*

SUMMIT POINT INAUGURAL: Sen. Ralph Recto (third from left) leads guests and club officials during the inaugural tournament of the Summit Point Golf and Country Club in Lipa City. From left: Aboy Jalandoni, senior board member Marc Leviste, Recto, Summit Point president Robbie Leviste, Transportation and Communications Secretary Leandro Mendoza, course designer Robert Trent Jones Jr. and Sta. Lucia Realty club manager Vic de Guzman.

VP 'Kabayan' graces Summit Point opening

LIPA CITY, BATANGAS—VICE PRESident Noli "Kabayan" De Castro led the cast of those who trooped for the opening of the Summit Point Golf and Country Club's World 18 golf course here.

The vice president was joined by transportation secretary Larry Mendoza, Sen. Ralph Recto, Gov. Conrad Leviste of Summit Point Realty/Leviste Group, Hon. Toti Cariño of Fil-Estate Marketing, Mr. Exequiel Robles of Sta. Lucia Development and Mr. Robert Trent Jones II, designer of the Summit Point golf course.

Also gracing the opening were actor John Estrada, comedian Anjo Yllana, Apo singer Buboy Garovillo, TV host and newspaper columnist Johnny Litton, Summit Point president Lauro Leviste II, Senior Provincial Board Member Marc Leviste, former finance secretary Cesar Purisima, former Sen. Tessie Aquino-Oreta and former Batangas City councilor Nick Plata.

"Summit Point is a celebration of golf's best," says Jones. "Every golfer dreams of playing in Augusta, Georgia, Pebble Beach, California (both in the United States) and St. Andrews in England to name a few. We were inspired by these interesting holes and consolidated them into one course, and can be played here in Summit Point."

The Northern European themed golf clubhouse was designed by G&W Architects and is complete with men and women locker rooms with shower areas, Jacuzzis, spa, golfer's lounge and alfr co dining, function rooms, ness center, pro-shop and a and-putt area.

The residential Country Club is expected to rise by 2008.

Leviste said that Summit Point golf will help boost local tourism and encourage young Batangeños to get in- [illegible] to golf.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

rd

for two
f 5.01.
ed.
put, and
Lyudmi-
hlon:
the gold
his

Local Mamat keeps Singapore golf lead

SINGAPORE—MARDAN MAMAT SHOT A 2-under-par 70 Saturday to extend his lead heading into the final round of the Singapore Masters.

The hometown favorite played a mostly steady round with three birdies and looked on course for a three-stroke lead until he bogeyed on the last two holes at Laguna Golf and Country Club, reducing his lead to one shot.

England's Nick Dougherty, the tournament's defending champion, stormed up the leaderboard into second place with a 67.

Dougherty, who ended the previous round in joint fifth place, made six birdies on the front nine, including birdies on his first three holes, but his run was interrupted by a double bogey on the par-4 fourth.

In joint third place with a 9-under 207 were South Korean Charlie Wi, whose eight birdies and one bogey gave him a 65, and England's Ross Fisher, who scored a bogey-free 68 with four birdies.

"Maybe a couple of times, I was defensive hitting a shorter club into the wind just protecting from going over the flag," Fisher said. "But to come away with four birdies and no bogeys is really pleasing."

Thailand's Chapchai Nirat carded six consecutive birdies on the front nine and five birdies on the back, but his spectacular run was weighed down when his ball found water at the par-3 eighth and 17th holes, where he shot a triple and a double bogey respectively.

"I knew I had to be careful. I was a little scared and there was pressure too," said Nirat, whose 66 moved him into fifth place. "Maybe the pressure got to me."

In sixth place at 7-under 209 were Dane Anders Hansen (66) and Englishman Andrew Butterfield (66), while Wade Ormsby and Prayad Marksaeng were in eighth.

The Singapore Masters is jointly sanctioned by the European and Asian Tours. *Reuters*

konen encounters fying problems

IKKONEN FAILED TO COM-
ng for Sunday's season-opening
fter his McLaren suffered a sus-
n failure.

out the red flags in the first of
ouncing off the track at speed.
ing had sheared off, leaving the
ng at an angle.

t introduced this season, quali-
ree sessions with the bottom six
st two 15 minute periods elimi-

s then fight for pole position in a

runner-up last season with sev-
his stricken car back to the pits

while the session was suspended but there was not enough time for repairs.

He is expected to start from the back of the grid.

When the session started again, drivers had to queue up to leave the pitlane. World champion Fernando Alonso was fastest with Britain's Jenson Button, aiming for his first win after 100 starts, second.

Both Super Aguri cars, driven by Japan's Takuma Sato and Yuji Ide, failed to get through to the second session as did the Midlands of Christijan Albers and Tiago Monteiro and Toyota's Ralf Schumacher.

The following cars were eliminated in the first two qualifying sessions at the Bahrain Grand Prix on Saturday: In the second session: Jacques Villeneuve (Canada) BMW, Sauber Nico Rosberg (Germany) Williams, David Coulthard (Britain) Red Bull, Jarno Trulli (Italy) Toyota, Vitantonio Liuzzi (Italy) Scuderia Toro Rosso, Scott Speed (US) Scuderia Toro Rosso, In the first session: Ralf Schumacher (Germany) Toyota, Christijan Albers (Netherlands) Midland, Tiago Monteiro (Portugal) Midland, Yuji Ide (Japan) Super Aguri, Takuma Sato (Japan) Super Aguri, Kimi Raikkonen (Finland) McLaren.

Reuters

a Bay sea sports tilt slated

TS ENTHUSIASTS
ila' Baywalk along
h Manila Bay Sum-
l on Mar. 25 and 26.
re water and beach
boat racing, sailing,
vall-climbing compe-

ontest of the event is
, to be comprised of
and Formula (Modi-

specification of the
gine should be stan-
iggs & Stratton while
is Open Briggs and

Stratton (13-, 16- and 18-horsepower).

Bigger prizes are at stake this year for the Bancathon stock race winners, including P130,000 plus a Briggs & Stratton engine and Cord Marine Epoxy for the grand champion.

The second place winner will take home P70,000 plus a Briggs & Stratton Engine and Cord Marine Epoxy, wile third placer takes home P40,000 plus Cord Marine Epoxy.

Meanwhile, the grand prize winner for the Formula (Modified) Race gets P70,000 plus a Cord Marine Eoxy; 2nd place wins P40,000 plus Cord Marine Epoxy and 3rd place gets P20,000 plus Cord Marine Epoxy.

Dragon Boat tourneys are also set to run during the two-day event such as local Olympic rowers, Southeast Asian and Asian Games medalists, national rowers and members of the Philippine team training pool race along the bay.

Hobbyists and university athletes will also be competing in sailing, wall climbing and beach volleyball. A climbing wall and beach volleyball court will be set up at the fountain area of the Rajah Sulaiman Park fronting Baywalk.

The two day-long sportfest by the bay will culminate with an awards night and free live concert and fashion show.

The event is organized by the Manila Broadcasting Company (MBC).

rs-
busi-
pitch-

ore Nutritious
W More MALT
ore MILO Taste
NOW More MALT
More MILO Taste
MALT MILK COCOA
NATURAL GOODNESS
Nestlé
MILO
®
Vanisa B. Calapatan
National Ranking Meet, 2005
(No. 1 in the whole Philippines)
with ENERGY RELEASING
Actigen-E
Energy Food Drink

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Breakthrough Equation:

Two glasses of MILO with milk = 27% of child's energy needs

(Read all about it at the back of the MILO pack)

Pening powers Iligan dribblers past Oro Rapids

GAME TODAY (*Xavier University Gym*)
5:30 p.m.—Cagayan de Oro vs. Montana Pawnshop-Davao

CAGAYAN DE ORO—BURLY EDUARDO PENING SCORED ON A LAYUP with 11 seconds remaining to lift Iligan City to a come-from-behind 100-99 victory over host Cagayan de Oro Rapids in the Mindanao-Visayas Basketball Association (MVBA) tournament at the jampacked Xavier University Gym.

Pening, who topscored with 21 points, teamed up with Alex Bognot in the clutch to give the Rapids of Mayor Lawrence Cruz their third win in a row.

Bognot scored on a drive to pull Iligan City within 98-99, before stealing off Jong Rebuya and setting up Pening's basket.

In the ensuing play, Cagayan de Oro's Robin Mendoza hurriedly took the inbound and set up Cesar Estolano, who muffed a desperate three-point attempt.

It was a heartbreaking loss for the Rapids who led by as much as 15 points, 81-66, late in the third period.

Aries Gloria sparked Iligan City's rally, scoring nine points early in the fourth quarter. Erickson Araman backed up Pening with 19 while Bognot and Gloria chipped in 14 points apiece.

Pagcor warns on poker tilts

THE PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENT AND GAMING Corp. (Pagcor) has warned the public against engaging in poker activities or events not conducted by or affiliated with the state gaming agency.

Poker and its derivatives are prohibited under Presidential Decree 1602. It may, however, be allowed with the supervision and endorsement of Pagcor.

The importation poker paraphernalia is also prohibited under the Customs and Tariffs Code.

"Poker is perhaps the most popular card game in the world today," said Pagcor chair Efraim C. Genuino. "Even celebrities are now getting into it.

"However, in accordance with the law, all major poker activities and events must first go through us."

NPC golf backed

THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INsurance System (GSIS), Great Taste 3-in-1 Mixes & C2 Green Tea, Pagcor and Isuzu Phils. head the early roster of major sponsors of the second National Press Club (NPC) President's Cup golf tournament firing off March 23 at Club Intramuros. First Gentleman Mike Arroyo will hit the ceremonial drive to kick off the 18-hole tournament. Registration is ongoing. For inquiries, call 301-0521 to 22 or 521-9300.

Malt Mystery Revealed:

More malt now found in New Improved MILO

(See full story at the back of the MILO pack)

Tougher Legenda-Subic Bay Int'l Triathlon slated May 7

EXPECT A BIGGER, TOUGHER INTERNAtional Triathlon in Subic Bay this year.

The Triathlon Association of the Philippines (Trap), the Subic Legend Hotels and Casinos, and SBMA, Trap's long-term partner, have joined hands anew to put up a bigger event this year.

The hotel group has agreed to be the presentor-sponsor of this International Triathlon Union-sanctioned race, the only one in the Philippines and one of the only 14 ITU point-earning races in Asia.

Dubbed as the Legenda-Subic Bay International Triathlon, the event is expected to draw more local and overseas participants in the race set May 7.

The long-running international triathlon race, now on its 12th year, has attracted many world-class triathletes.

Last year's race was won by Israel's Ran Alterman, whose twin brother Dan figured in a dramatic finish, swaying like a man who had finished one bottle too many in the final 30 meters of the race and collapsing like a log at the finish line behind Ran and New Zealand's Ben Pulham.

The SBMA also hosted the Asian Triathlon Championships twice, eliciting high marks from visiting triathletes and officials of the Asian Triathlon Confederation in both times. The venue also hosted the triathlon competitions of the 23rd Southeast Asian Games.

"We are indeed proud to be a major partner of Trap in staging this prestigious event here in Subic and it emphasizes the fact that Subic is considered an international sports hub in this part of the world," said Legenda Hotels CEO Khoo Boo Boon.

Trap president Tom Carrasco has announced the inclusion, for the first time, of the national inter-club competition in this year's championship.

"We would like to see legitimate triathlon clubs participate and not just pick up teams, and we are giving interesdted teams until March 15 to pre-register for the competitions," said Carrasco.

A maximum of five members per club, with a minimum of one female member, can comprise a team. The clockings of top three male members and the female member will count towards the team total.

More Nutritious
NOW More MALT
More MILO Taste
With more of the natural goodness of malt, plus milk, cocoa and energy-releasing Actigen-E,
MILO is now even more nutritious and delicious!
LET'S TALK WELLNESS
SINCE 1866
Nestlé
More Nutritious
NOW More MALT
More MILO Taste

Nutrition Information	Units	Per 100g Powder	Per Serving 20g Milo + 200ml NIDO Full Cream Milk	% RENI per serving 7-9 yrs. Old
Energy	Kcal	411	213.4	13.3
Protein	g	11.5	9.0	21.0
Carbohydrates	g	64.9	22.7	-
Total Fat	g	11.7	9.8	-
Actigen E				
Thiamin (Vit.B1)	mg	1.07	0.32	45.4
Riboflavin (Vit.B2)	mg	1.14	0.6	65.1
Niacin (Vit.B3)	mg	12.8	4.25	47.2
Pyridoxine (Vit.B6)	mg	1.7	0.51	50.8
Pantothenic Acid	mg	4.6	1.4	-
Biotin (Vit.B8)	mcg	107	34.4	-
Cobalamin (Vit.B12)	mcg	0.94	0.68	38.7
Ascorbic Acid (Vit.C)	mg	80	25	71.4
Iron	mg	10.5	4.7	42.7
Calcium	mg	622	366.2	52.3
Magnesium	mg	170	58.1	56.1

Good To Know
Malt comes from a cereal called barley
It is rich in B-Vitamins and minerals, which together with Actigen-E, help promote the optimal release of energy from the food you eat.

Good To Remember
Just two glasses of MILO with milk provide 27% of your child's daily energy needs.

Talk to Us
NESTLÉ CONSUMER SERVICES
Tel: 898 0061
www.nestle.com.ph
www.milo.com.ph
P.O.Box 155 Manila

® Reg. Trademark of Société des Produits Nestlé S.A.

PCU's Baby Dolphins gain new heights

A JOB WELL DONE.

That's how Philippine Christian University (PCU) president Dr. Oscar S. Suarez described the Baby Dolphins' successful title-retention campaign in the 60th National Inter-Secondary Basketball Championships held in Daet, Camarines Norte, recently.

Led by MVP awardee Allan Mangahas and handled by coach Bong Sales, the Baby Dolphins demolished Iloilo Central Commercial High School, 97-63, to become the first team since San Beda College to win back-to-back championships in the country's premier student basketball competition.

Overall, the Hapee Toothpase-supported Baby Dolphins swept their six matches, including a record-breaking 206-47 triumph over the University of Batangas in the elimination round.

"I'm proud of this newest accomplishment of the boys," said Suarez, after receiving the trophy from the players and coaching staff. "They really did their best to bring honor to the university."

PCU athletic director Alfredo Olano said: "It's really hard to become champions in only a few year's time but the boys rose to the challenge and played with great determination."

The Baby Dolphins are now setting their sights on winning the NCAA crown and possibly, a third straight national inter-secondary championship.

Mangahas, last year NCAA MVP, teamed up with fellow 2005 veterans Paolo Guidaben and Glenn Manlutac to power the Baby Dolphins to a successful defense of the title they won over the San Beda Red Cubs in Dumaguete City last year.

They got ample support from Ralph John Lansang who was named Best Center of the tournament, Aaron Anacta, Floricel Guevarra, Jetterson Vidal, Nico Bagawisan, Carlos Pagayanan Harold Sumera and Elvin Pascual.

"Team work did it for the team. The boys played as one solid unit from beginning to end," said Sales, who was ably assisted by George Longalong, Nelson Gatdula and Nino Dayao.

In the Group A elimination round, the Baby Dolphins also defeated Emar Learning Center of Davao, 102-56; University of Southern Philippines of Cebu, 96-62; and Iloilo Central Commercial School, 87-72.

In the crossover semis, PCU eliminated Southern City College of Zamboanga, 103-78.

PCU repeated over Iloilo Central Commercial High School for the title.

WORLD INDOOR: Italy's Antonietta Di Martino competes in the women's high jump qualifications at the 11th IAAF World Indoor Championships in Moscow. Di Martino qualified for the final. AFP

UAAP, NCAA RIVALS

Ex-cage stars back in Homegrown Cup

By June Navarro

FORMER CAGE STARS PUT ON their old sneakers to represent their respective schools in the UAAP and NCAA in a tournament dubbed the Total-Filoil-Flying V Homegrown Cup.

Commissioner Virgil Villavicencio said the competition will try to relive the hard court exploits of former standouts from Ateneo, De La Salle, Far Eastern, Letran, San Beda College and University of the Philippines, who later became attractions in the Philippine Basketball Association.

Among the former pros playing are Steve Watson, Fritz Gaston and Joy Carpio of Ateneo, La Salle's Lim Eng Beng and now San Miguel coach Jong Uichico, Chito Loyzaga, Boybits Victoria and Frankie Lim of San Beda, UP's Ronnie Magsanoc, Glenn Capacio, Harmon Codiñera and Ronald Magtulis of FEU and Letran's Samboy Lim.

The tournament kicks off on March 18 at the San Juan Gymnasium along with a junior division from the six participating teams.

"This is a reunion of sorts for the varsity stars of the past," said Villavicencio, who graced yesterday's press conference at the Kamayan Edsa together with league chair David Dualan and project director Anthony Suntay.

The inaugural season will have two conferences with the next conference slated in September.

Tournament format calls for a single-round battle with the top two teams vying for the winner-take-all championship game.

The tournament is also sponsored by Immuvit, X-24 and Accel.

Former PBA coach Chito Narvasa will call the shots for Ateneo, Glenn Capacio for FEU, Lim Eng Beng for La Salle, Itoy Esguerra for Letran, Chito Loyzaga for San Beda and Raymund Celis for UP.

Spring Oil, Tagaytay capture NBC openers

TAGAYTAY CITY—SPRING COOKING OIL-PARAñaque and Batang Tagaytay bested their respective rivals to share the early lead in the National Basketball Conference's third season Friday at the International Convention Center here.

The Cooking Masters of NBC president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla and Parañaque Vice Mayor and actor/TV host Anjo Yllana rallied to beat Bacchus/Harbour Centre-Manila, 87-80.

Then NBC executive vice president and Tagaytay Mayor Bambol Tolentino's cagers outsteadied Pangasinan Hundred Islands, 90-88, in an exciting, see-saw battle that delighted the huge hometown crowd.

Niño Marquez powered his team to victory in the tourney sponsored by Molten, Nature's Spring, Regent Foods, Spring Cooking Oil, Prime Channel and Sulpicio Lines.

A late addition to Tagaytay, Marquez scored 12 straight points highlighted by back-to-back treys for a 42-40 edge.

Cavite Gov. Ayong Maliksi graced the hour-long opening rites together with Padilla, Tolentino, NBC sec gen Tito Palma, former Villasis, Pangasinan mayor Monching Morden and other local government officials.

Mar Reyes scored nine straight points to wipe out a 72-70 Bacchus/Harbour lead and give Spring-Parañque a nine-point lead which it held until the end.

The scores:

SPRING 87—Reyes 19, Yambao 15, Manuel 11, Neo 10, De castro 9, Capobres 7, Morante 5, Barnson 5, Barreto 2

BACCHUS 80—Buenafe 17, Sta. Cruz, 15, Membrere 13, Epondulan 11, Masbang 7, Pile 7, Hardin 5, Reroma 0.

Quarters: 16-25, 35-47, 66-57, 87-80

TAGAYTAY 90—Marquez 24, Reyes 20, Diaz 12, Guiyab 11, Jorge 11, Mallari 7, Robillos 6, Malonzo 5

PANGASINAN 88—Mamaclay 20, Lopez 16, Valdez 13, Fontanilla 9, Balares 8, Gonzales 7, David 6, marucot 4, Zablan 3, Ortega 2, Ico 0,

Quarters: 27-29, 42-43, 75-74, 90-88

CAVITE Gov. Ayong Maliksi makes the ceremonial toss between Pangasinan's Jovy Sese (left) and Batang Tagaytay's Arden Guiyab in the opening of NBC's third season. Flanking Maliksi are NBC president Tac Padilla (striped T-shirt) and Tagaytay Mayor Bambol Tolentino.

DON'T MISS YOUR COPY!

CALL THE INQUIRER CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE
896-6000

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday
SPORTS
SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2006
E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres
Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Puerto Ricans humble Cuban clouters

SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA—A CONTROVERSY-nagged Cuban team suffered a humbling 12-2 loss to host Puerto Rico at the World Baseball Classic on Friday while political rival United States romped into the second round.

Home runs by Bernie Williams, Carlos Beltran and Alex Cintron led Puerto Rico in a game halted by the "mercy" rule after seven innings, only the second early-stoppage loss inflicted on Cuba, the first coming 13-1 to Taiwan in 1983.

"These are things that simply happen in the game of baseball," Cuba manager Higinio Velez said. "If this were to occur on a frequent basis for Cuba, this would be rather worrisome. But this is not the case."

Unbeaten Puerto Rico and Cuba had already booked second-round berths with Venezuela and the Dominican Republic in the first global showdown using Major League Baseball talent. That group opens play Sunday in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Hours after threatening to withdraw over their delegation leader's ejection a night earlier after a clash with an anti-Fidel Castro protester, Cuba was trounced by a foe it plays again Wednesday, likely with much more at stake.

"I would like you all to remember that we have lost the battle but not the war," Velez said. "Puerto Rico was one of our main rivals. This notwithstanding we did not expect to have such a difference in terms of results."

South Korea, Japan and Mexico were joined in the other second-round group at Anaheim, California, by the US squad, which ripped an outmatched South African amateur unit 17-0 in a game halted by the mercy rule after after five innings.

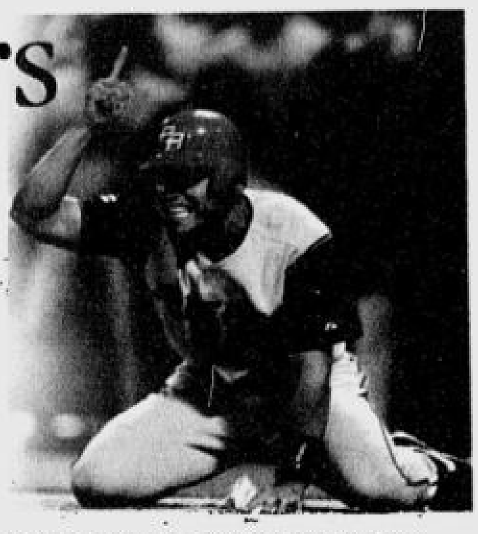
Two days after a shock 8-6 US loss to Canada, Ken Griffey Jnr smashed a pair of three-run homers to power an 18-hit American assault while Roger Clemens allowed only one hit and struck out six batters in 4 1/3 innings.

"Now that the second round is here, the tension is going to pick up," said Griffey. "Are we going to be a little more focused? Yeah."

In other games Friday, the Dominicans remained unbeaten as Albert Pujols, Alberto Castillo and Alfonso Soriano each knocked in two runs in a 6-4 triumph over winless Australia.

And Dutch teen Shairon Martis threw a complete game no-hitter as the Netherlands beat Panama 10-0 in a game between eliminated teams halted after seven innings by the mercy rule.

Reigning Olympic champion Cuba's woes began long before they faced Puerto Rico's $80-million major league lineup. *AFP*



PUERTO Rico catcher Ivan Rodriguez shows everyone who's No. 1. AP

Kobe buries weary Spurs

Richardson's 44 helps Warriors cool Heat

SAN ANTONIO—THE DISCLAIMER has to come first, before anyone gets too carried away with what happened Friday, that the San Antonio Spurs were playing their fourth game in five nights, the toughest test for an NBA team.

They also were playing the second game of a back-to-back set, much like the Detroit Pistons were when they came to Staples Center last Saturday, a case of what Lakers coach Phil Jackson so often calls "attrition of scheduling."

With that out of the way, the Lakers now have beaten both of last season's NBA Finals teams in the last week, taking care of the Spurs 100-92 at the AT&T Center and showing signs of coming together with 19 games left in the season.

It was the Lakers' first victory over the Spurs in seven games since Shaquille O'Neal was traded and came in one of the toughest places in the NBA to win. The defending champion Spurs have gone 26-4 at home this season and were 38-3 last season.

The good feelings afterward in the locker room were such that assistant coach Brian Shaw felt the need to alert the media to breaking news. Something that had to be in the paper this morning.

After years of debate, Shaw and forward Devean George finally had measured the size of each other's heads. It was official: George's was bigger by three-quarters of an inch, and everybody could now put the championship days behind them.

The Lakers could be forgiven for feeling a little big-headed Friday, when they had five players finish in double figures and moved into sole possession of seventh place in the Western Conference after the Hornets' loss to Indiana.

"We're starting to play with more of a purpose," Kobe Bryant said.

The Lakers (33-30) broke open the game with a big second quarter and held off the Spurs the rest of the way. More than the victory, though, the Lakers looked like the team Jackson had envisioned when he returned as coach last June.

If one play summed up the night, it came with 9:44 left and the Lakers holding a 76-66 lead. They gave the ball to Bryant with the shot clock running out, just like so many times this season.

Instead of standing and watching Bryant take the jumper, however, Luke Walton caught Michael Finley flat-footed and cut along the baseline at the last second. Bryant rose and fired a pass to Walton, who caught it and went up for a dunk.

"The reason why that play might not have been there earlier in the season is that everybody would have been clogging up the lane," Bryant said. "Our spacing wouldn't have been good."

On a night when Walton finished with 13 points and 10 rebounds, back to playing the game instead of drowning in his thoughts about it, that might have been the biggest play of all.

Bryant finished with 29 points despite missing his first seven shots of the second half.

Then there was Kwame Brown, who played the entire fourth quarter, finished with 10 points and eight rebounds, and limited Tim Duncan to 12 points, four rebounds and three turnovers.

In Miami, Jason Richardson nailed a career-high 44 points as the Golden State Warriors upset the Heat, 111-106, snapping their 10-game winning streak.

Richardson's career night overshadowed a 42-point performance from the Heat's Dwyane Wade.

In Toronto, Andre Miller had 23 points as the Denver Nuggets dumped the Raptors, 108-97, extending their winning run to four.

Reggie Evans had 20 rebounds without scoring a point, the first time such a feat was accomplished since Chicago's Dennis Rodman pulled it off against Phoenix on December 15, 1997. *NYTNS, Reuters*

Kwame's still learning, says Jackson

SAN ANTONIO—KWAME BROWN TURNED 24 on Friday, young by one NBA standard, old by another, and didn't hesitate when asked which he felt more like on his birthday.

"Young bull," Brown said.

If Brown had gone to college for four years, like players of a previous era, he would be a rookie in the league right now. Instead, Brown turned pro out of high school, was the No. 1 overall pick, and is nearing the conclusion of his fifth season.

As hard as progress has been to measure with Brown, who is averaging 5.9 points and 5.8 rebounds in his first season with the Lakers, Phil Jackson did not seem to think he is anything close to a fully formed player.

"He's just a learner," Jackson said. "He's in his learner phase. We marvel sometimes at his game. He plays great at moments. At other moments, he'll miss a shot you'd think that no one could miss.

"He has great reactions at times, but at other times he looks like he's nailed to the floor. It's a consistency that we're looking for out of his performance. But we know that the ingredients are there, that he likes to play, that he likes basketball."

Jackson added that he doesn't expect Brown to have a breakthrough moment on the court, rather a gradual process of getting better.

"I don't think it's going to be an overnight sensation, the angel is going to strike him and he's going to suddenly be doing things that make all the difference in the world," Jackson said.

Jackson's biggest challenge seems to be building Brown's confidence and easing the anxiety with which the 6-foot-11 big man plays the game.

As for being a better practice than game player, Jackson said of Brown: "He still finds a way to miss some shots that are impossible to miss at 11 o'clock."

- **NBA on TV:** SOLAR SPORTS—Dallas vs Utah (10 a.m. live, 7 p.m. replay); RPN-9—Dallas vs Utah (10 a.m. live), Minnesota vs Phoenix (9 p.m. delayed telecast)

BRYANT: Hero's role REUTERS

Early run has Tiger delighted

LOS ANGELES—ALTHOUGH TIGER WOODS has major acquisitions on his shopping list for later this year, he is delighted with his early-season return.

Three wins in his first five tournaments, a new five-wood in his bag, a Border Collie dog from his wife and a new Florida property have given the world No. 1 ample reason to smile.

On top of that, the hard work he has put into his swing with coach Hank Haney over the last two years has born fruit and the game's leading player is excited he can now make adjustments during tournament rounds.

"I hoped to get off to a fast start this year, and that's exactly what has happened," American Woods said in his monthly newsletter on Friday.

"I've won three times in five starts, which isn't too bad considering all the time I took off during the Christmas Holidays.

Woods, who won six PGA Tour titles last year including the US Masters and British Open, felt he needed to take an extended break before this season to recharge his batteries.

He did not touch a club for 24 days, his longest spell away from the game without being sidelined through injury.

"Basically, I'm continuing to refine things that Hank Haney and I have been working on for nearly two years," added Woods, who won the Buick Invitational in San Diego in January, the Dubai Desert Classic the following week and the Doral Championship in Miami on Sunday.

"The neat part is that now I am able to fix my swing faults when I'm out there playing." *Reuters*

Sorenstam shares lead in Mexico

HUIXQUILUCAN, MEXICO—ANNIKA SORENSTAM shot a 5-under 67 in her first competitive round of the year Friday to finish tied for the lead with Italy's Silvia Cavalleri in the MasterCard Classic.

The world's top-ranked women's golfer stayed consistent, hitting fairways and reaching greens easily before sinking a 7-foot putt on the par-5 No. 18 for her fifth birdie.

Sorenstam, who sat out the first two tournaments of the season in Hawaii last month, also made her 2005 debut here, winning the 54-hole event outside of Mexico City—the first US LPGA tour stop south of the border in three decades.

"I felt, I wouldn't say pressure, but I wanted to perform because I've felt like I've had a good practice session the last two weeks and I felt really good about my game," said the 35-year-old Swede, who has 10 titles to defend this year. "I could not have asked for a better day."

Cavalleri began on the back nine and sunk a nearly 40 foot putt for birdie on No. 17 before going uphill to hole out from 15 feet on the third hole. She had seven birdies, offsetting two bogeys, one of which saw her miss a 4-foot putt.

"I putted very well. It was just a steady round apart from two bogeys in the last five holes," said the 33-year-old, who is seeking her first tour win.

Norway's Suzann Pettersen, limited to just nine tournaments last year because of a back injury, was in third place after the opening round, at 4-under. She had three birdies in a row from holes No. 5 through 7, finishing with a total of six to go with a pair of bogeys. Three players were tied for fourth at 3-under.

Light morning winds picked up to 10-15 mph with 20 mph gusts after midday. Sorenstam said she had to adjust.

"I was trying to play the ball a little lower, maybe get another club and not swing so hard," she said. "I didn't want the ball to climb so I could control it a little bit more."

On a hill in Huixquilucan, which overlooks Mexico City's smog-shrouded outskirts, Bosque Real Country Club is even higher than the capital's 7,400-foot altitude. *AP*

Federer on Nadal: Too early to call him a rival

INDIAN WELLS—WORLD NO. 1 ROGER FEDERER said it was too early to tell whether he and Rafael Nadal will establish a major rivalry.

Spanish teenager Nadal broke Federer's 56-match hard court winning streak with a 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 victory in Dubai last Sunday and boasts a 3-1 record against the Swiss. But Federer said the competition was too fierce to develop a rivalry in the fashion of Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras.

"I've played him only four times and obviously we are No. 1 and No. 2, but we'll have to see how it progresses," said Federer, the top seed at this week's Pacific Life Open.

"There are more players than just Nadal. The other players will play well here too at Indian Wells.

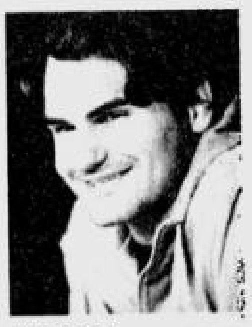
"I don't think we can call it a rivalry yet. There's just too many great players around."

But eight-times grand slam champion Agassi think the pairing has the makings of a classic and said that the left-handed Nadal, who is seeded second at Indian Wells, has the game to challenge Federer.

"I think it would be impossible for anybody to dominate in the past two years the way Roger did," Agassi said.

"It's great to see that the one person that closes to him in the rankings is his most difficult matchup. Nadal can hit that one shot that everybody wishes they can hit against Roger and that's getting the ball up to his backhand side.

Swiss Federer believes the more he plays the Spaniard, the more success he'll have against him. *Reuters*



FEDERER REUTERS

Hingis keeps pace with Davenport, Sharapova

HINGIS: First return to US turns out fine.

INDIAN WELLS, CALIFORNIA—Lindsay Davenport won her opening match Friday in the Pacific Life Open and Maria Sharapova and Martina Hingis joined her in the third round of the rain-delayed tournament.

Sharapova, the No. 3 seed, beat Jamea Jackson of the United States, 6-4, 6-3, and Hingis, making a comeback after three years in retirement, was a 6-1, 6-3 winner over Camille Pin of France.

Hingis, seeded 19th, is a possible fourth-round opponent for No. 2 seed Davenport.

Sharapova and Davenport could meet in a rematch of last year's semifinal that Davenport won, 6-0, 6-0.

Davenport, 29, finished her match early in the afternoon by beating fellow American Ashley Harkleroad, 6-0, 6-0, before rain forced a 3-hour, 41-minute delay of the men's first-round and women's second-round matches.

"It's fantastic when you're done (and) you're watching everyone else in the locker room sweat it out, but it's very tough when rain interrupts play," Davenport said. "A lot of time it can change the momentum. Players get stiff, you're always unsure of when it will stop. And I think certain players are personally unprepared for it at certain venues. At Wimbledon, you're always looking up, like, 'OK, one more game.' I don't think anyone would have expected a long rain delay here in the desert."

Davenport won 62 of the 95 points played in her 53-minute match against Harkleroad.

Davenport wasn't the only one fortunate enough to beat the rain. Seventh-seeded Anna-Lena Groenefeld of Germany and No. 27 Marta Domachowska of Poland also advanced to the third round.

But Sybille Bammer of Austria upset No. 15 seed Jelena Jankovic of Serbia-Montenegro 7-5, 6-4 and Meng Yuan of China was a 7-6 (5), 6-2 winner over No. 23 seed Catalina Castano of Colombia.

In early men's first-round matches, Paul Goldstein and Sam Querrey of the United States, Ivo Karlovic of Croatia, Florian Mayer and Philipp Kohlkschreiber of Germany, Jan Hernych of the Czech Republic and Robin Soderling of Sweden all won. *AP*

ENTERTAINMENT
Editor Emmie G. Velarde
E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Moments with Iz

IZA Calzado as Divina, an obedient daughter who agrees to marry a man chosen by her parents ... and then meets the man of her dreams.

By Marinel R. Cruz

"I HAVE NO INtention OF breaking up their love team. It's just work. It's a company decision to put me in that role and Karylle in the other."

Iza Calzado was addressing fans of Karylle and Dingdong Dantes who reportedly don't approve of the three actors designations in GMA Films' "Moments of Love."

Dingdong, Karylle's real-life sweetheart, plays the object of Iza's affections in the film directed by Mark Reyes ("Mulawin The Movie").

"Karylle and I discussed this," Iza said. "I think it's just a normal fan reaction. They adore Karylle and Dingdong and I respect that."

Karylle agreed: "There's no reason to get angry. Whenever our fans react negatively to anything, I ask them to stop. *Kung ako nga hindi nagagalit.*"

The fans' negative comments were posted on various Internet-sites, Karylle said. This prompted Dingdong to personally talk with some of them. "He told them that we're very proud of this movie."

INQUIRER Entertainment recently sat with Karylle and Iza. The actresses shared their thoughts on their roles, as well as their goals, and hopes for the movie industry.

Tell us something about your characters in this film.

Iza: Divina is an artist and a musician. Her dream is to study Fine Arts in Manila. She's a very obedient daughter. So when she was told that the family is at the risk of losing its hacienda, she decided to help. The story is set in 1957, when women practically had no right to speak their minds. Divina is married off to a rich scion. He turns out to be a jerk. Then she meets Marco (Dingdong) and the conflict begins.

Karylle: Lianne loves her grandmother more than her mom. Her grandma invites her to take a vacation in the province. This is set in the present time. Lianne has an accident and meets Dingdong's character. They feel as if they've known each other for a long time. They begin to ask, "How can two people from different times meet and fall in love?'

What are your expectations for this film?

Iza: I think the main reason that GMA 7 is doing this is that if this makes money, we can produce more films. The industry will be resuscitated. There's so much talent in this country. Successful Filipinos are everywhere—Cheryl Burke, Sugababes, Pussycat Dolls, Black Eyed Peas. There are other Filipinos out there, *pero hirap sila makakuha ng* work. *Alanganin sila* for Spanish [roles] *pero 'di naman pwedeng* Chinese. As soon as the world embraces brown culture, we'll find our place.

Karylle: Korean and Taiwanese actors are popular here. Why can't Filipino actors be the same abroad? This is one of the reasons I accepted this project. GMA 7 has such high hopes for it.

What do you wish for yourself?

Karylle: I want to win an acting award. I remember when my mom won Best Actress (for "Ako Legal Wife" during the Metro Manila Film Festival in December), a lot of people congratulated me. *Ang sarap pala ng* feeling. I was so happy even if I didn't win.

Iza: If I win an acting award for this film, I think it will be just icing on the cake. I enjoyed doing "Moments." I got goose bumps while dubbing. It's interesting how the movie connects past and present events.

Do you have dream roles?

Karylle: I'd like to do an action film. *Ang tingin sa akin ng mga tao, mahinhin ako,* even though I do a

MOMENTS/ A2-2

FAP goes digital

... and to the HK Filmart

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

THE FILM ACADEMY of the Philippines is now reviewing independent and digital movies as nominees to this year's Luna Awards, which will be presented in May or June.

This was confirmed by John Suarez, FAP executive secretary, and Leo Martinez, FAP director general.

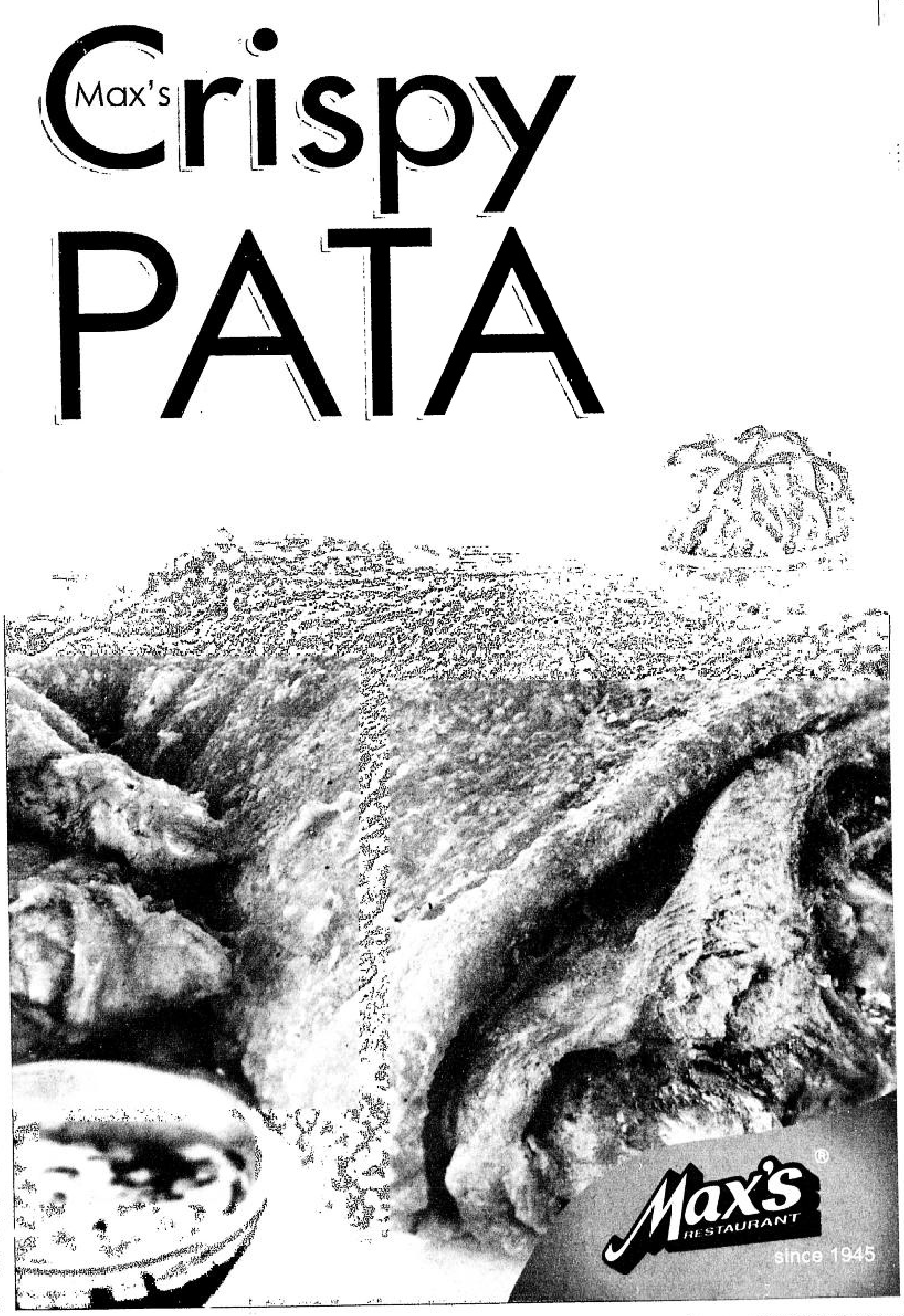
"For as long as the digital film has been commercially exhibited, it can compete," Suarez said.

In the lineup are the following digital films that were blown up to 35mm and have had theatrical runs: "Mga Pusang Gala," "Masahista" and "Ang Pagdadalaga ni Maximo Oliveros."

Also qualified are digital movies "Boso," "Ilusyon" and other Cinemalaya and Cinemanila film festival entries that had "limited" commercial runs, said Suarez.

FAP/ A2-2

FERSAL HOTEL INN
"Bring the comforts of your home... in the heart of the city"
DAILY • WEEKLY • MONTHLY
For as low as...
Php 550.00 to Php 900.00 net/pax
(Double Occupancy)
• P. Tuazon St., Cubao, Quezon City Tel.: (+632) 912-8000
• Annapolis St., Cubao, Quezon City Tel.: (+632) 912-5852
• Neptune St., Makati City Tel.: (+632) 897-9123
• Kalayaan Avenue, Quezon City Tel.: (+632) 924-2689
• Andalucia St., Sta. Cruz, Manila Tel.: (+632) 742-7292
ACCREDITED
Central Reservations Office
Directline.: (+632) 912-2691 • Trunkline: (+632) 911-2101 loc. 146/148 • Fax: (+632) 912-2693
email: reservations@fersalinn.com.ph



SUN CELLULAR
Everything Important is Under the Sun
Call abroad for less than a local call!*
10¢*/min
starting on the FIRST minute to the Top 10 destinations!
10c per minute IDD Top 10
P100 Valid for 7 days
A permanent Sun Service.
U.S. (Mainland) • China • Hong Kong • Canada • Singapore
Thailand • Malaysia • Brunei • Guam • Macau
A Permanent Service to all Sun subscribers. For Postpaid, enroll through Sun Shops or call 200.
* versus local Sun calls to other networks. * in US dollars

Moments with Iza & Karylle

From page A2-1

lot of action scenes in "Encantadia." It's funny, when I'm bored with my stunts, the stunt choreographers would tell me, "*Para kay lolo.*" (Boxing referee Carlos Padilla is the father of Karylle's mom, singer-actress Zsazsa.) I tell them, "*Dapat tama ang suntok ko dahil mapapanood n'ya ako sa States.*" Lolo records all "Encantadia" episodes. He might call me about my punches. I want to be like Jenny Garner, Jessica Alba or Charlize Theron.

Iza: I don't have one dream role. But I'm thankful because all the characters I loved when I was growing up, I have portrayed. I loved Cinderella. The soap series "Te Amo" had a Cinderella-like plot. I always wanted to be an enchantress, like Maria Makiling. I am one in "Encantadia." My role in "Milan" was also good for me. (Iza won an Urian Best Supporting Actress trophy for her work in the Olive Lamasan movie) I like offbeat roles. I want to do a gangster role, and a *baliw* character.

Who do you get acting tips from?

Karylle: My mom is very encouraging. *Madami siyang binibigay na* tips along the way. She's also my exercise trainer (laughs). We went to the gym once. The trainers there said to me, "*Ang* strict *naman ng* trainer *mo.*" Mama wanted me to do the most difficult ab routine. She would tell me, "Stop! You're cheating! You're cheating!"

Iza: In the beginning, Sunshine Dizon played a big part in my becoming an actress. We've worked with each other in "Kung Mawawala Ka." She once told me, "Focus *ka lang.*" I kept that in mind. You see, when I talk to people, I ask questions, I listen and I try to remember. Our director, Joel Lamangan, helps me out, too. I will never forget when Direk Joel told me once, "Phoebe, feel the scene." My jaw dropped. I didn't know what he meant. I also worked with Direk Peque Gallaga in "Pinoy Blonde" and I learned a lot from him. That's why I decided that I'd like to take acting lessons from him.

If you were offered sexy roles in

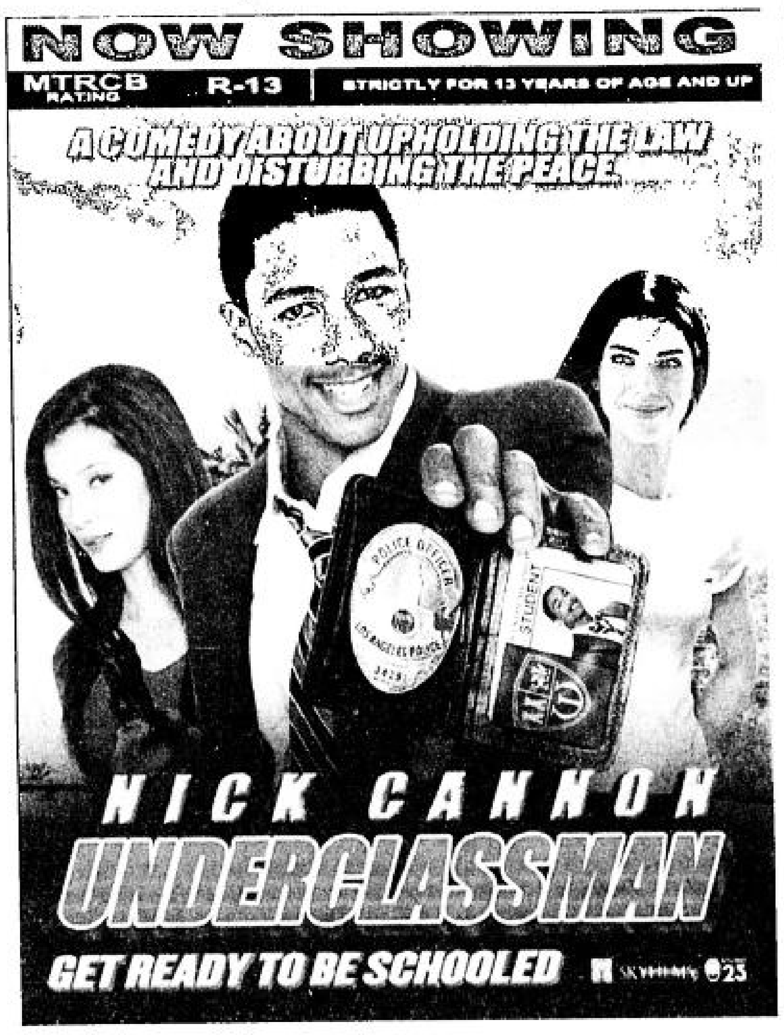
EASTWOOD CINEMAS
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City
For inquiries, call:
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

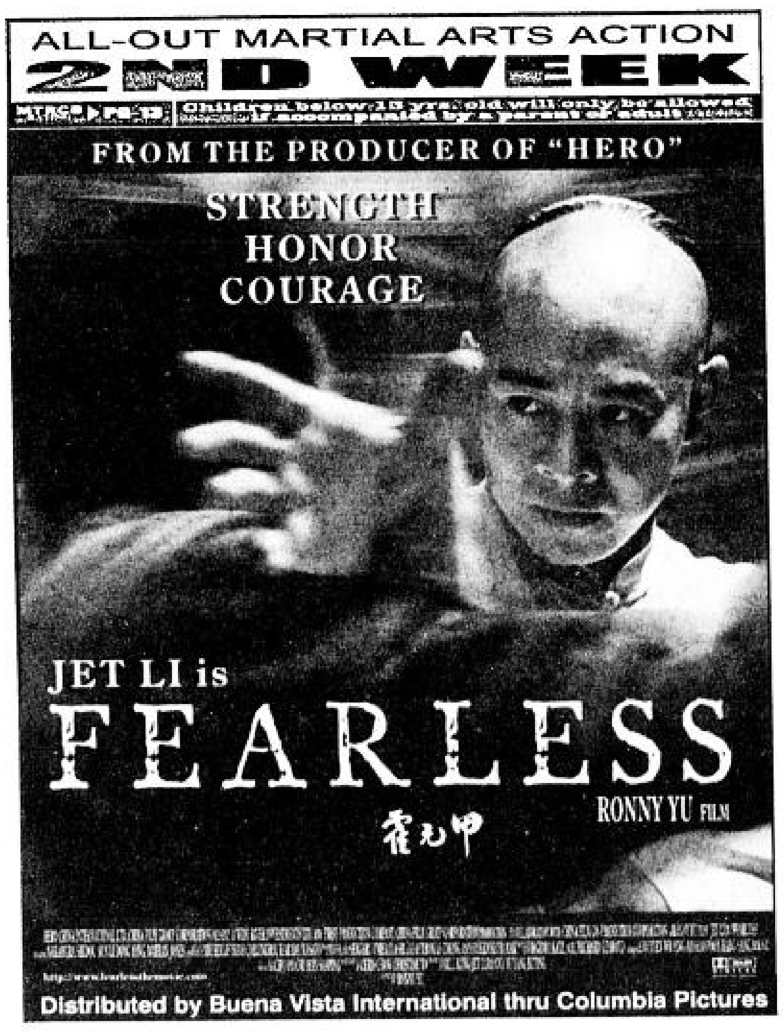
1 CASSANOVA
1:05, 3:35, 6:05, 8:35, 11:00
R-13

2 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
11:40, 1:55, 4:10, 6:25, 8:40, 11:00
GP

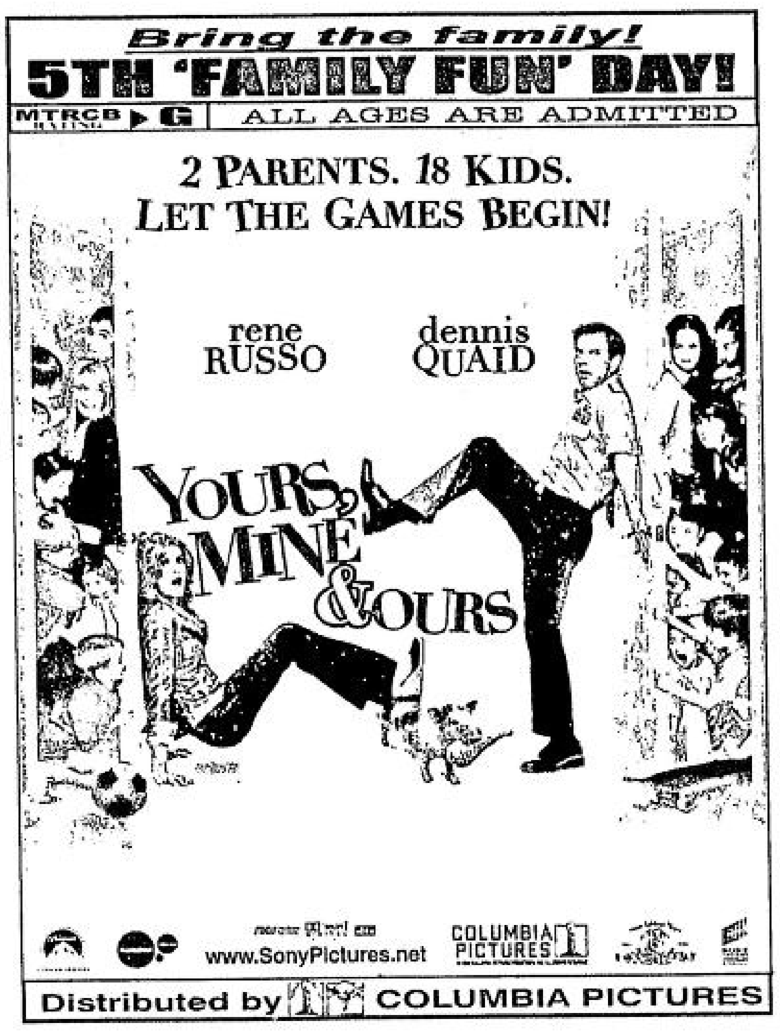
3 16 BLOCKS
1:20, 3:45, 6:10, 8:35, 11:00
PG-13

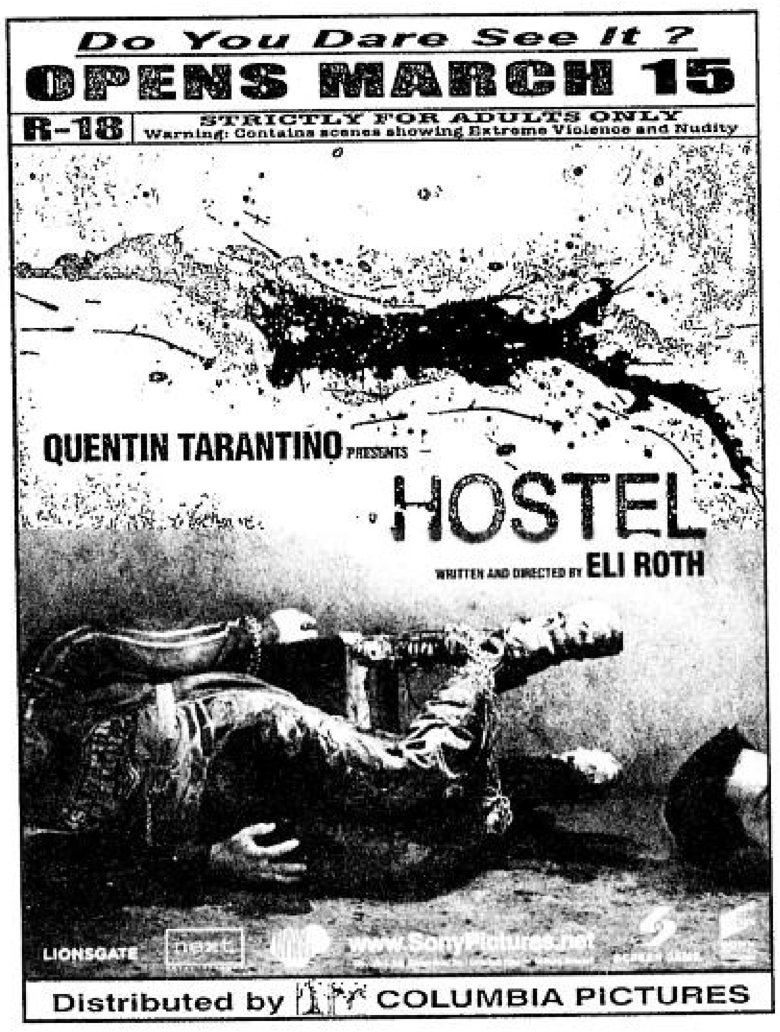
4 LAST HOLIDAY
11:55, 2:35, 5:15, 7:55, 10:35
GP

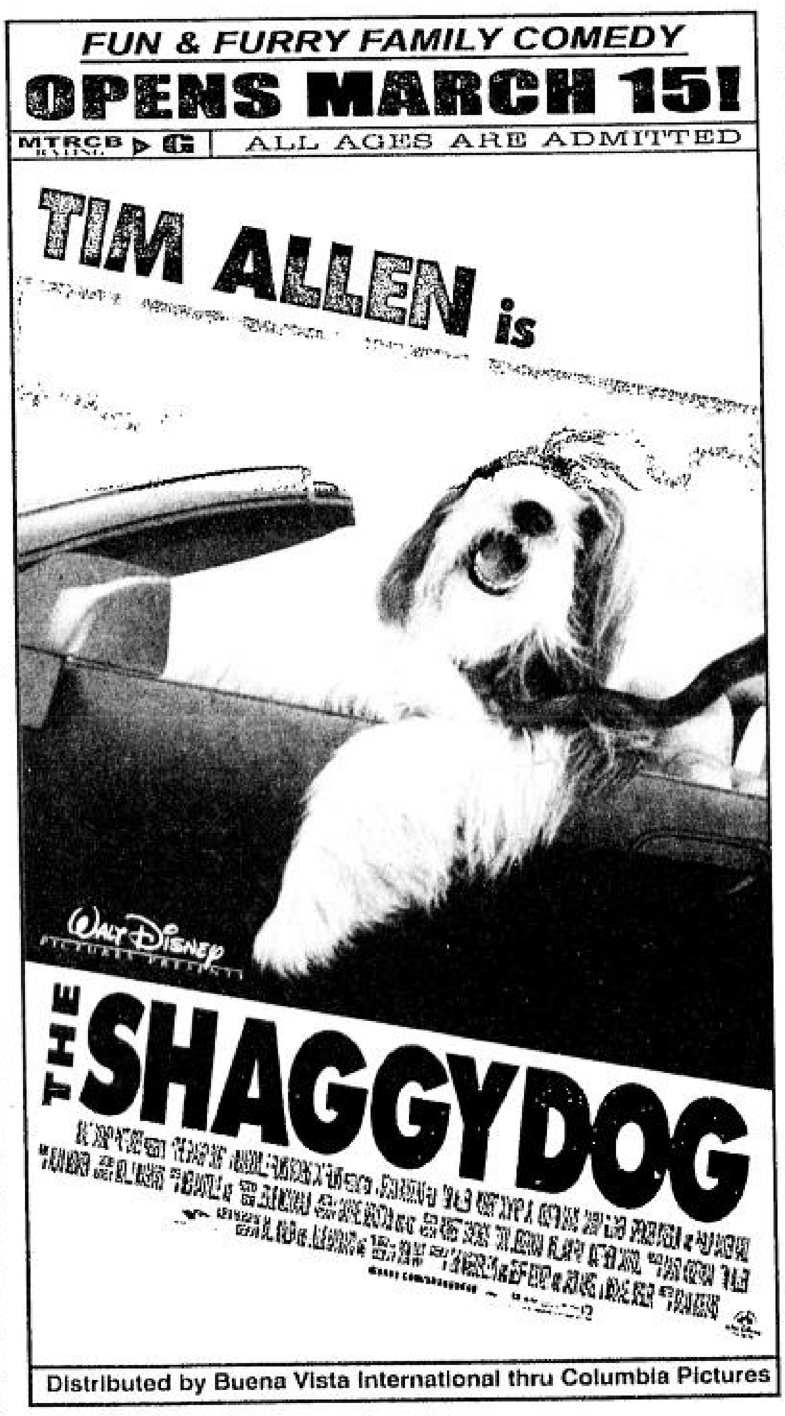

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
A COMEDY ABOUT UPHOLDING THE LAW AND DISTURBING THE PEACE
NICK CANNON
UNDERCLASSMAN
GET READY TO BE SCHOOLED


ALL-OUT MARTIAL ARTS ACTION
2ND WEEK
MTRCB PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
FROM THE PRODUCER OF "HERO"
STRENGTH
HONOR
COURAGE
JET LI is
FEARLESS
RONNY YU FILM
霍元甲
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

MTRCB RATING R-18 RESTRICTED strictly for ADULTS
APPROVED WITHOUT CUTS
IT'S ABOUT LOVE
IT'S ABOUT ROMANCE
AND MORE CRAP LIKE THAT.
DATE MOVIE
FROM ~~THE~~ 2 of the 6 WRITERS OF "SCARY MOVIE"
COME FOR THE COMEDY. STAY FOR THE CLIMAX.
NOW SHOWING


Bring the family!
5TH 'FAMILY FUN' DAY!
MTRCB G ALL AGES ARE ADMITTED
2 PARENTS. 18 KIDS.
LET THE GAMES BEGIN!
rene RUSSO
dennis QUAID
YOURS, MINE & OURS
www.SonyPictures.net
COLUMBIA PICTURES
Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES


Do You Dare See It ?
OPENS MARCH 15
R-18 STRICTLY FOR ADULTS ONLY
Warning: Contains scenes showing Extreme Violence and Nudity
QUENTIN TARANTINO PRESENTS
HOSTEL
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY ELI ROTH
LIONSGATE
www.SonyPictures.net
Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES


FUN & FURRY FAMILY COMEDY
OPENS MARCH 15!
MTRCB G ALL AGES ARE ADMITTED
TIM ALLEN is
WALT DISNEY PICTURES PRESENTS
THE SHAGGY DOG
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

SHANG CINEPLEX

1 YOURS, MINE & OURS
MTRCB GP
1 00, 3 15, 5 30, 7 45, 10 00 LMF

2 16 BLOCKS
MTRCB PG-13
12 20, 2 45, 5 10, 7 35, 10 00 LMF

3 DATE MOVIE
MTRCB R-18
1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10.00

4 CASANOVA
MTRCB R-13
12 00, 2.30, 5:00, 7:30 10:00

PREMIERE THEATRE THE LAST HOLIDAY
MTRCB GP 1.15, 3 45, 6 15, 9 00 LMF
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

Catch the Cineplex Special
Get a Mini Shabu-Shabu Cash Certificate worth P100.00 for every single purchase of two (2) tickets of any movie at the Shang Cineplex.
Promo Period : Feb 15 to Mar 15, 2006. See Posters For Details
Per DTI-NCR Permit Number A3-0166, Series of 2006.

Call 633-7851, loc. 171 or 633-2227 for more details.
Shangri-La Plaza

GREENHILLS CINEMAS
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA
THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 CASANOVA 10:35, 12:55, 3:20, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35 R13
CINEMA 2 LAST HOLIDAY 10:35 , 12:50, 3:10, 5:35 , 8:05 , 10:30 GP
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
PROMENADE GREENHILLS
...a dinetertainment for all!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 3 YOURS, MINE & OURS 11:40, 1:55, 4:05, 6:15, 8:25, 10:35 GP
CINEMA 4 DATE MOVIE 10:50, 1:05, 3:20, 5:35, 7:50, 10:10 R18
CINEMA 5 16 BLOCKS 10:50, 1:05, 3:20, 5:35, 7:50, 10:10 PG13
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722 4496.

MUSIC MUSEUM
MARCH 18 ,2006 VINA M., RACHEL A.,GENEVA C. 9:00PM
MARCH 30 ,2006 RICO J. PUNO 9:00PM

TEATRINO
PROMENADE GREENHILLS
EVERY MONDAY MARCH 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31
TEATRINO DANCE NIGHT
WERE STILL HOT THE MUSICAL
FOR INQUIRIES CALL 722-4532 LOC. 118
7:00PM
9:00PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City
Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

DATE MOVIE R18 1:40,3:40,5:40,7:40,9:40
CASANOVA R13 12:15,2:45,5:15, 7:45,10:10
YOURS, MINE AND OURS G 1:45,3:55,6:05, 8:15,10:25
THE LAST HOLIDAY G 12:20,2:45,5:10, 7:35,10:00
UNDERCLASSMAN R13 1:30,3:35,5:40,7:45,9:50
16 BLOCKS PG13 1:35,3:45,5.55,8:05,10:[illegible]

MOVIES AND SCREENING SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR VERIFICATION CALL 898-144041
Matinee Screenings before 5:00 p.m. "Free Seating" P111.00 – Monday-Friday.

Rockwell
Vintage Bazaar
Summer Chic
March 18-19 Rockwell Tent
POWER PLANT MALL

DINGDONG and Karylle: Their fans are not too happy about this movie.

the future, would you accept?

Karylle: I don't think I'll ever be ready for sexy roles, even if Dingdong would be my partner.

Iza: I don't know. It really depends on the role and the treatment.

What other projects are you busy with right now?

Karylle: I want to promote my album. I've been so busy with "Encantadia" that I didn't get the chance to promote it. We end taping by April. I'd like to go full blast with my singing then. I hope to set up an all-female band. Ria Villena is my musical director.

Iza: I'm set to do something for Unitel Pictures. It's a digital horror film. I can't talk much about it at this time.

"Moments of Love" will be shown in theaters nationwide starting March 29.

FAP goes digital ...

From page A2-1

According to Ronald Arguëlles, Cinema One Originals project head, "The two-day Cinema One digital festival held at SM Megamall last year allowed our films to be qualified in the Urian, Star and Golden Screen. We'll also submit our films to the FAP".

"In the coming week, we will announce the citations," said Martinez. "So far, we've reviewed 60 movies, which we will narrow down to 10 or 15."

RP booth

Meanwhile, the FAP will be putting up a Philippine booth at the Hong Kong International Film and TV Market, running from March 20 to 23 at the HK Convention and Exhibition Center in Wanchai.

It is the country's first time to participate in the event that attracted exhibitors from 23 countries and buyers from 40 countries last year.

"Close to 3,000 visitors attended the HK Filmart last year," Suarez said.

This year, the Philippine booth will feature as part of the official delegation: Regal Entertainment (Regal Films, MaQ, Good Harvest and Regal Multi-Media), GMA Films and Imus Productions. Star Cinema and Octoarts/Canary declined because most of their products have already been sold, said Suarez.

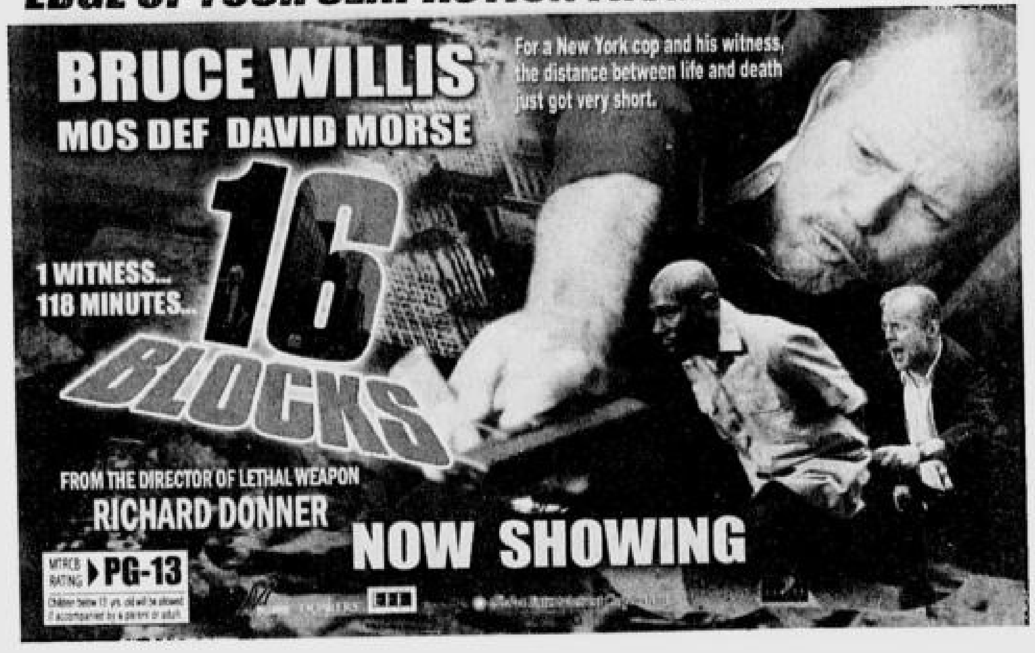
Opportunity

Unitel ("La Visa Loca") and Gee Entertainment ("Masahista) will set up their own booths at the Filmart. Unitel has participated at the Cannes and American Film Markets in previous years.

"The invitation for the HK Filmart was coursed through Wilson Tieng, president of the Movie Producers Distributors Association of the Philippines," Suarez said. "Since we believe in the project's merits, we pursued it and asked assistance from the Film Development Council of the Philippines, which will shoulder the booth's cost ($2,800)."

The HK Filmart presents an opportunity for local producers to sell their movies to 350 registered buyers that can offer theatrical, home video and TV (free and cable) sales.

#1 MOVIE OF THE WEEK!
EDGE OF YOUR SEAT ACTION FROM START TO END.



BRUCE WILLIS
MOS DEF DAVID MORSE
16 BLOCKS
For a New York cop and his witness, the distance between life and death just got very short.
1 WITNESS... 118 MINUTES...
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF LETHAL WEAPON RICHARD DONNER
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING PG-13

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
8th floor Shangri-la Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Telephone: 633.2227 / 6337851 loc. 171

1 (DOLBY) YOURS, MINE & OURS GP
2 (DOLBY) 16 BLOCKS PG13
3 (DOLBY) DATE MOVIE R18
4 (DOLBY) CASANOVA R13

PREMIERE

(DOLBY) LAST HOLIDAY R13

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DDS) THE DARK
2 (SDDS) FINAL DESTINATION-3
3 UNDERCLASS MAN / BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
4 GOLD (DTS) DATE MOVIE
5 GOLD (DOLBY) 16 BLOCKS
6 GOLD (SDDS) YOUR'S MINE & OURS
7 GOLD (DOLBY) CASANOVA
8 FEARLESS
9 CLOSE TO YOU
10 THE LAST HOLIDAY / TIGER BLADE

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
tel 687.6963 or 72

1 (DOLBY) CASSANOVA
2 (DOLBY) YOURS, MINE & OURS
3 (DOLBY) 16 BLOCKS
4 (DOLBY) LAST HOLIDAY

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 DATE MOVIE
2 (DTS) BLOODRAYNE
3 (DOLBY) FEARLESS
4 YOURS, MINE & OURS

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel. (049) 4111146
1 FINAL DESTINATION
2 (DOLBY) DATE MOVIE
3 (DTS) YOURS, MINE & OURS
4 FEARLESS

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 CLOSE TO YOU
2 PINK PANTHER
3 (DOLBY) THE NEW WORLD

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 CLOSE TO YOU
2 ST. ANGIE
3 (DOLBY) NEW WORLD
4 (DTS) MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 FEARLESS
2 AEON FLUX
3 (DOLBY) BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Gapan)
1 AEON FLUX
2 PINK PANTHER

CINEMA 2000
Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216

1 16 BLOCKS
2 FEARLESS - PG13
3 YOUR, MINE & OURS- GP
4 DATE MOVIE - R18

Blue Wave MARQUINTON
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927

1 (DOLBY) YOURS, MINE & OURS
2 (DOLBY) DATE MOVIE
3 (DOLBY) 16 BLOCKS
4 (DOLBY) RESERVED

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
tel 7334228

1 (DOLBY) FEARLESS
2 THE DARK
3 YOURS, MINE & OURS
4 16 BLOCKS
5 DATE MOVIE

starmall EDSA-SHAW
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150

3 FEARLESS
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
5 16 BLOCKS

MARKET! MARKET!
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1 PINK PANTHER
2 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE-2
3 SNEAK CHARMER
4 RESERVED

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274

1 YOURS, MINE & OURS
2 FEARLESS
3 TIGER BLADE

metropolis star cinema
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 5433994

1 TIGER BLADE
2 16 BLOCKS
3 CASANOVA
4 FEARLESS

Center Mall Cinema
Bagulo Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)

1 FIREWALL
2 YOURS, MINE & OURS

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX) BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
2 CLOSE TO YOU
3 (DTS EX) YOURS, MINE & OURS
4 BLOODRAYNE

THEATRES
NE Pacific Mall Cabanatuan, telephone No (044) 600 3026

1 FIREWALL
2 PINK PANTHER
3 AEON FLUX

Lianas Cinema
(Pasig) tel 640.4748

1 HIGH EXPLOSIVE
2 CLOSE TO YOU

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS) TIGER BLADE
2 MASARAP NA PUGAD
3 MGA BABAE SA VIP ROOM
4 (DTS) BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY) FEARLESS
2 MAGENTA
3 (DTS) YOURS, MINE & OURS
4 CLOSE TO YOU
5 BLOODRAYNE

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121

1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 (DOLBY) RESERVED
4 (DTS) RESERVED

PACIFIC MALL LUCENA CINEMAGIC
Pacific Mall Lucena Tel (042) 660-5271

THE NEW WORLD
PINK PANTHER
RESERVED
RESERVED

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489

1 CLOSE TO YOU
2 THE NEW WORLD
3 (DOLBY) AEON FLUX
4 (DTS) PINK PANTHER

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1 THE NEW WORLD
2 CLOSE TO YOU
3 THE PINK PANTHER
4 FEARLESS

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1 CLOSE TO YOU
2 PINK PANTHER

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1 SHUT UP & KISS ME
2 TAMPISAW

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA 632-9116

1 CASANOVA• THX
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

2 DATE MOVIE
11:15 1:20 3:25 5:30 7:35 9:45

3 16 BLOCKS
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

4 KEYS TO THE HOUSE
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

5 LAST HOLIDAY
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

6 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
11:15 1:20 3:25 5:30 7:35 9:45

7 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
1:30 4:20 7:10 10.00

8 UNDERCLASS MAN
1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40

9 THE DARK
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

10 FEARLESS
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 16 BLOCKS
10:10 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

2 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

3 UNDERCLASS MAN
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

4 THE DARK
10:10 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

5 LAST HOLIDAY
11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

6 DATE MOVIE
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 9:50

7 FEARLESS
10:10 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00

METRO EAST 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 LAST HOLIDAY
1:05 3:45 6:25 9:05

2 CASANOVA
12:15 2:25 4:35 6:45 9:00

3 DATE MOVIE
11:00 1:00 3:05 5:10 7:15 9:15

4 UNDERCLASS MAN
12:40 2:45 4:50 6:55 9:00

5 FEARLESS
12:15 2:25 4:35 6:45 9:00

6 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
11:45 2:05 4:25 6:45 9:05

7 16 BLOCKS
11:05 1:35 4:05 6:35 9:05

8 THE DARK
11:50 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:10

NOVALICHES 935-3231 / 935-3229-30

1 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
2 DATE MOVIE
3 CASANOVA
4 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
5 16 BLOCKS
6 UNDERCLASS MAN

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2575

1 BLOODRAYNE
2 DATE MOVIE
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

PIONEER 687-5378

1 16 BLOCKS
2 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
3 DATE MOVIE
4 THE DARK

the keys to the house

exclusive screening
Robinsons Movieworld
GALLERIA

A FATHER AND SON LOVE STORY EVERY MOTHER WOULD DIE FOR...

The film is a touching story of a young father forging a relationship with his handicapped son, whom he meets for the first time as a teenager. Having suffered a traumatic birth, Paolo is disabled both physically and psychologically and must travel to a special hospital in Berlin for rehabilitation. Gianni, who accompanies the boy in hopes of getting to know his estranged son, meets Nicole, a strong woman dedicating herself entirely to the care of her handicapped daughter. Through their conversations, Nicole helps Gianni come to terms with the guilt of having abandoned Paolo. This revelation results in an unexpected and fragile happiness between a father and a son discovering each other and themselves in a place far from home.

Opens on March 08

MTRCB Rating G
For SCREENING SCHEDULES, please call our CINEMA ACCESS: 635-5555

STA. ROSA (049) 837-0907

1 FINAL DESTINATION 3
2 MURDER
3 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
4 DATE MOVIE
5 FEARLESS

LIPA (043) 757-3664 (043) 312-5870

1 FEARLESS
2 NASAAN SI FRANCIS
3 PINK PANTHER
4 NEW WORLD

DASMARIÑAS (046) 852-2125 (046) 416-4332

1 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
2 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
3 SYRIANA
4 NASAAN SI FRANCIS?
5 16 BLOCKS

ANGELES (045) 892-2348

1 BLOODRAYNE
2 DATE MOVIE
3 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
4 YOURS, MINE AND OURS

IMUS (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188

1 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
2 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
3 DATE MOVIE
4 16 BLOCKS

STARMILLS (045) 875-1927 (045) 961-5270

1 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
2 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
3 DATE MOVIE
4 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
5 FEARLESS
6 FINAL DESTINATION 3

BACOLOD (034) 441-0453 (034) 441-0459

1 AEON FLUX
2 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2
3 UNDERWORLD 2
4 FEARLESS
5 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
6 NASAAN SI FRANCIS?

ILOILO (033) 336-8070

1 FEARLESS
2 NASAAN SI FRANCIS?
3 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2
4 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
5 MURDER
6 NEW WORLD

The Perfect Gift All Year Round
A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.
Get Special discounts for volume purchases!
For marketing and events/reservations please call Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 locals 14 and 15

RYAN Cayabyab

Celebs 'speak in tongues'

CELEBRITIES READ, SANG AND acted out verses in an evening of music and poetry titled "To Speak in Tongues/In Focus: Marra PL. Lanot," at the Newsdesk in Quezon City.

Sponsored by Butterflyeffect Inc., the two-part event was held on Feb. 25 and March 4 as an observance of Women's Month (March) and International Women's Day (March 8). It was also in line with Butterflyeffect's advocacy to promote awareness and appreciation of Philippine literature.

Interpreters of Lanot's poems, which are originally written in Filipino, English, and Spanish, were: "bagets" Kojih Lanot, Christel Reyes, Louie Barretto, Bethany Licad, Nadja Licad, and Nina Licad; poets Joi Barrios, Rebecca Añonuevo Marne Kilates, Alma Anonas, and Benilda Santos; journalist Sheila Coronel; advertising guru Emily Abrera; political leader Risa Hontiveros; Spanish teacher Maita Ventanilla; writer-dancer Nanette Matilac; actors Ronnie Lazaro, Roence Santos, Peejay Lanot, Soliman Cruz, Shamaine Centenera, and Jaime Fabregas; and singer-composers Isha, Girl Valencia, Cooky Chua with Color It Red, and Cynthia Alexander, as well as Miriam San Miguel, Frances Fernandez, and Gerry Olaguer of Ryan Cayabyab Music Studio.

CLOCKWISE from left: Cookie Chua, Jaime Fabregas and Isha

Tuloy-tuloy ang saya!
Kaya join na!
SMART Buddy GSM Pre-paid
Choose your dream
sa LaGoT KA... isusumbong kita!
Send YES to 232
to track your chances of winning and receive featured content (logo, picture message, ringtone, etc.) daily for only P2.50!
Be one of 15 weekly winners of P5,000!
Get a chance to play and win cash plus your dream showcase!
Mas pinasayang Monthly Prizes!
Dream Cruise Showcase
Asian Cruise for 2 plus pocket money
Dream Entertainment Showcase
Samsung TV, Mini-Component, Digicam and PC with printer
Dream Kabuhayan Showcase
Tricycle and a SMART Loading Station worth ₱150,000
Yahoong Yahoong Grand Prizes!
Dream Vacation Showcase
Trip to Europe for 2 plus pocket money
Dream Car Showcase
A brand new Honda Jazz plus ₱20,000 gas allowance
Dream Business Showcase
Mini Grocery (Construction and Inventory) worth ₱700,000
Watch & Win!
Tutok lang sa Lagot Ka! every Monday. Answer the Buddy Game Trivia and Dream Weekly Trivia to get a chance to win up to ₱50,000!
GMA NETWORK
SMART

ROUNDUP

CARMI Martin

MARICEL Laxa

700 Club special

Actors Christopher de Leon and Maricel Laxa, broadcaster Karen Davila, sportscaster Dyan Castillejo and singer Isabella are only some of the celebrities on ABS-CBN and 700 Club Asia's TV special on March 13-15, after "Pinoy Big Brother Up Late."

"Prayerthon" aims to rally as many Filipinos as possible from all over the world to join hands in prayer for the country's concerns.

Televiewers will be called upon to pray and fast for the Philippines. Through The Filipino Channel (TFC), the special will reach Pinoys in North America and Europe.

Joining The 700 Club Asia host Peter Kairuz are Rio Locsin, Pinky de Leon, Cito Beltran, Isay Alvarez, Carmi Martin, Isabel Rivas, Audie Gemora, Felichi Pangilinan-Buizon, Joaquin Valdes and many others.

Singing for Gaia

GAIA Bianca Pasamba

"Martin Sings for Gaia" features Martin Nievera and Louie Ocampo at the Rigodon Ballroom of the Manila Peninsula on March 29 at 8 p.m.

The concert aims to raise funds for a liver transplant for 9-month-old Gaia Bianca Pasamba.

Barely two months after her birth on June 7 last year, Gaia was diagnosed with Biliary Atresia, a serious disease that strikes infants and which results in the inflammation and obstruction of the ducts that carry bile from the liver to the intestines and causes severe liver damage.

"Martin sings for Gaia" is a joint production of The Manila Peninsula and Big Mouth International. Call 8299514. More information about Gaia is available via www.gaiabianca.com.

Y Speak at the prom

Would school life be complete without the prom? Would you go to the prom without a date? Check out what today's youth has to say about the JS prom tonight at 7 p.m. on "Y Speak" on Studio 23.

The special prom episode is hosted by real-life sweethearts Ryan Agoncillo and Judy Ann Santos, with guests Mylene Dizon and Paolo Paraiso, China Cojuangco and Lui Villaruz.

Artist of the month

Orange and Lemons is MTV's Lokal Artist for March. The band was featured on "MTV Handpicked" on March 5 (replays on March 19, 10 a.m. and March 23, 9:30 a.m.).

"MTV Sessions" will also star the group today at 10 a.m. Replays are on March 14, 10 p.m.; March 16, 9:30 p.m.; March 22, 3 p.m.; March 26, 10 a.m.; March 28, 10 p.m.; March 29, 10 p.m.; and March 30, 9:30 a.m.

Orange and Lemons is also nominated in the 2006 MTV Asia Awards' Favorite Artist-(Philippines) category.

ENTERTAINMENT

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Sentimental & Crystal-clear

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—HOW MANY PEOPLE can claim that they saw their first movie as a kid with the late great jazz singer **Billie Holiday?**

Billy Crystal can.

Not only did he watch a western with the music legend; he also sat on her lap. This is one of the revelations in Billy Crystal's autobiographical one-man show, "700 Sundays," which we caught on its LA stop at the Wilshire Theatre in Beverly Hills. The title of the 2005 Tony Award winner for Best Theatrical Event is derived from the number of Sundays that the actor-comedian-director got to spend with his father before he died of a heart attack. Only 15 at the time, Billy recalls this sad chapter in his life.

At the same time, he celebrates the resilience and inspiration of his mother who overcame the tragic loss and raised Billy and his two brothers by herself.

Billy's Uncle **Milt Gabler** (who helped raise the budding entertainer when his father died) founded Commodore Records and later Decca Records, both of which recorded many of the finest jazz and rock and roll artists in the 1950s and 1960s, from Billie Holiday's classic "Strange Fruit" to **Bill Haley's** "Rock Around the Clock." His father **Jack**, as manager of Commodore's record store in New York, worked long hours so Sunday was the only time he got to spend with his family. With his father and uncle in the music business, Billy grew up in a house where Holiday, **Louis Armstrong** and other music giants often dropped by and jammed.

Originally a book, "700 Sundays" is a touching, funny and Crystal-clear revisiting by Billy of his formative years. It is funniest when the comedian plays some of his relatives, especially his "gassy" grandpa Julius.

In person, Billy, like most comedians, is not a laugh-a-minute interview subject. From our experience, **Robin Williams** and a few others are the only comics who seem to be "on" all the time. Billy was gracious enough to accommodate our press group's request for an interview, held at the Beverly Hills Hotel's Private Polo Room, even in the middle of his show's run. "700 Sundays" recently ended its LA engagement and will resume its road tour in London later this year.

Billy, one of the Oscars' best hosts ever, is turning 59 (he looks much younger) this Tuesday, March 14. He and his wife of over 30 years, **Janice**, have two daughters, **Jennifer** and **Lindsay**, who are actresses.

How comfortable are your relatives about having their life discussed onstage?

I have been talking about this with them for so many years. They trust me. Telling the public about our lives is something that I earned a long time ago. They are fond remembrances. Some are sketched and colored in a special way for humor's sake. My brothers and I share in the thrill of the show's success, and not only in the way it has been received on Broadway and around the country. What is more gratifying is that people take the show home with them. They take it to heart and they think about their own families when they leave the theater. That's the great gift of the show for me. That's why I keep doing it.

As a father, how do you make sure that you get to spend more than 700 Sundays with your daughters?

Janice and I made a conscious decision when I was going out on the road a lot, before the movies started to happen. I cut back on being on the road. I was very selective in what I was doing so I wouldn't become Uncle Daddy. Even though I've lived my life in public, the kids had a very normal upbringing. One of our great triumphs as a couple is the fact that our kids are as great and as normal as they are.

You talk about your wonderful relationship with your mother, Helen, in this show. How influential was she in your life?

Oh, she was a very strong influence. My mother had a tough job. She held us all together. When you get spun out of your orbit and when you have a loss like that, she was so strong. She rarely let us see her sadness.

She just took over. She was the best and most important hero I ever knew. She greeted life always with a smile. She sang a lot. She had a great sense of humor. She could have been a great actress. I totally believe that. She was very talented that way. She always encouraged us to be ourselves and to find something that we liked to do. She said, "Don't do things that you don't enjoy doing." She didn't instill guilt trips ever. I was always in awe of her that way because life wasn't easy for her a lot of the time. She never complained about that kind of thing.

Since this show is very personal for you, you must have had several epiphanies either when you wrote the show or while you were doing it. Can you share a few?

When I hear the audience laugh, it's just the greatest feeling. That's 2,000 people. But when they're quiet, when I start describing the night my dad died, that's something I can't possibly describe to you. How powerful a feeling that is and how much that means to me to be able to get this stuff out night after night and be engaged in the drama of it. The other quiet moments in the show come when I talk about how my [mom's health] starts to fail. That's a feeling that you can never get from a movie. You can never get this from anything else—that interaction with the audience and the magic of being on stage.

For me, the revelation is that my life story is a gift. I'm so glad to have it, to be able to share it now. It has taken long enough at this age for me to have the strength to do it all these nights every week. But the conviction that I want to do the show helps me. I also enjoy that the show helps people. The letters I've gotten from New York can make a book of thank you's. They tell me their stories.

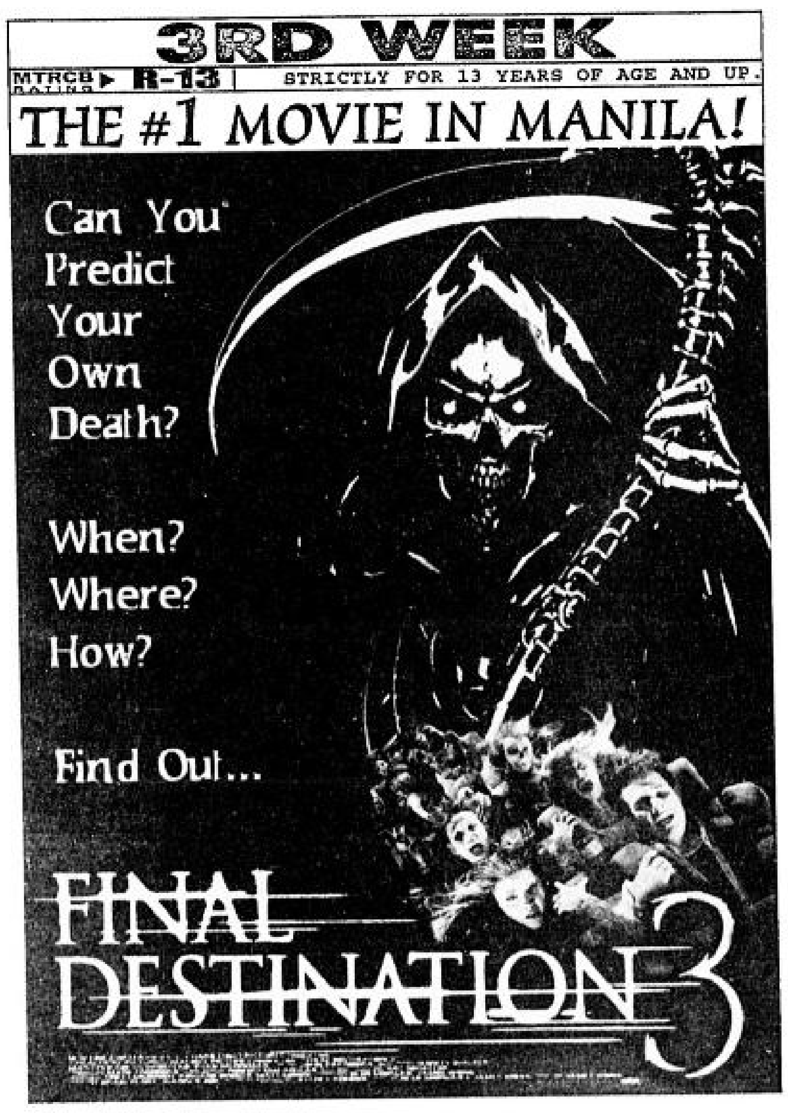
I have a little bit of regret that I laid off so many years of not doing it regularly but maybe that was meant to be, that this was what I was waiting to talk about. I stopped doing stand-up because I felt that I didn't have anything to say at that point. I had been on tour all the time. "You look marvelous," everyone was saying after my success on "Saturday Night Live."

I was playing in arenas, to 10,000 people who were yelling my lines back at me. It was pretty intoxicating but I wasn't getting anything out of it.

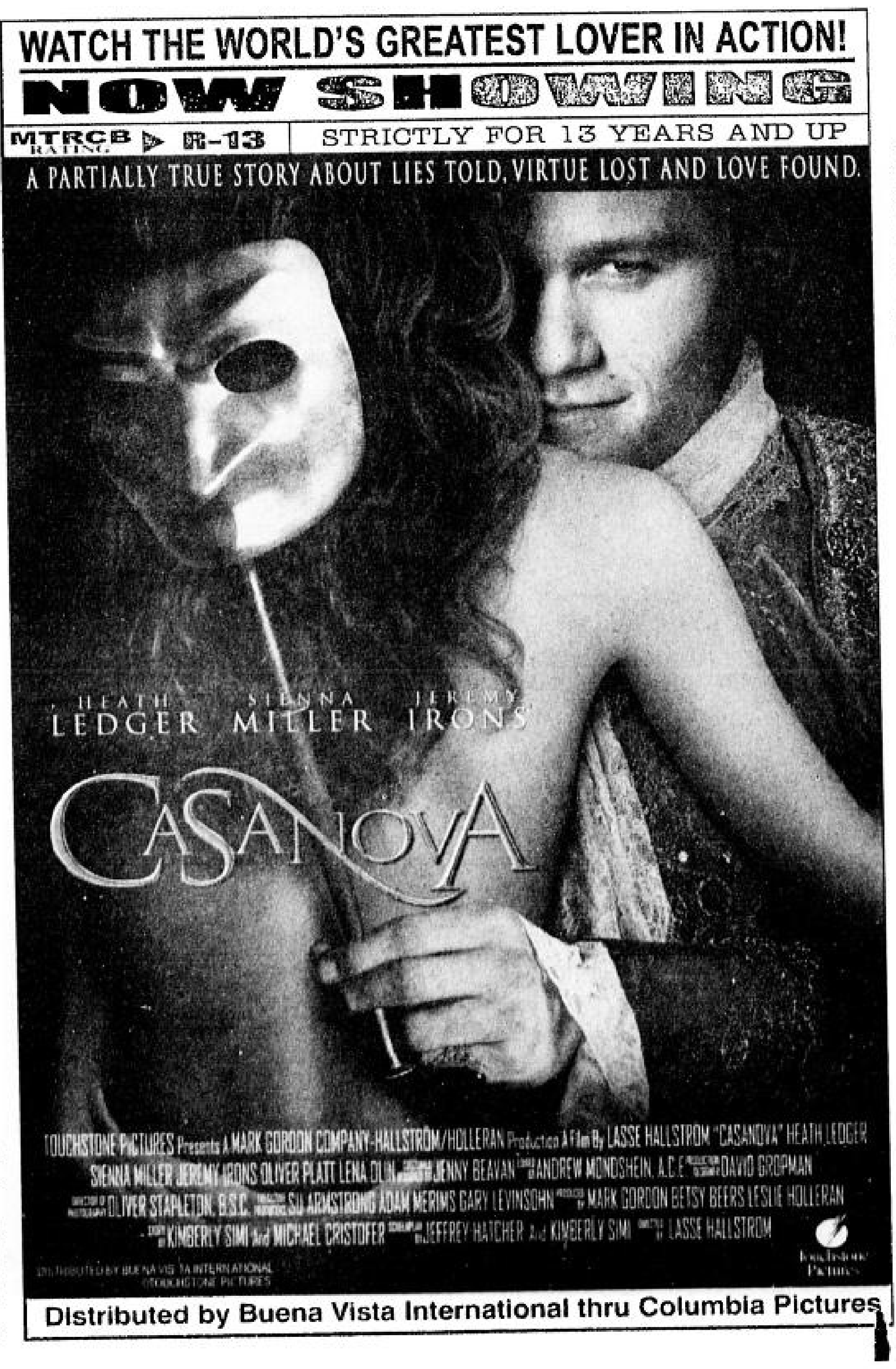
SENTIMENTAL/ A3-2

BILLY Crystal is no joke box in person.

> 'When I hear the audience laugh, it's just the greatest feeling. When I start describing the night my dad died, that's something I can't possibly describe'



3RD WEEK
MTRCB RATING ▶ R-13 | STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP.
THE #1 MOVIE IN MANILA!
Can You Predict Your Own Death?
When? Where? How?
Find Out...
FINAL DESTINATION 3



WATCH THE WORLD'S GREATEST LOVER IN ACTION!
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ R-13 | STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS AND UP
A PARTIALLY TRUE STORY ABOUT LIES TOLD, VIRTUE LOST AND LOVE FOUND.
HEATH LEDGER SIENNA MILLER JEREMY IRONS
CASANOVA
TOUCHSTONE PICTURES Presents A MARK GORDON COMPANY-HALLSTRÖM/HOLLERAN Production A Film By LASSE HALLSTROM "CASANOVA" HEATH LEDGER SIENNA MILLER JEREMY IRONS OLIVER PLATT LENA OLIN JENNY BEAVAN ANDREW MONDSHEIN, A.C.E. DAVID GROPMAN OLIVER STAPLETON, B.S.C. SU ARMSTRONG ADAM MERIMS GARY LEVINSOHN MARK GORDON BETSY BEERS LESLIE HOLLERAN KIMBERLY SIMI and MICHAEL CRISTOFER JEFFREY HATCHER and KIMBERLY SIMI LASSE HALLSTROM
Touchstone Pictures
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

Sa Globe,
'di pa rin tapos ang bonding kahit graduate na siya.
Congrats anak! Ang galing mo!
SUPER SULIT DEALS
₱0.10 PER SECOND
Diyes sentimos kada-segundo
Dial 232+10-digit Globe number of the party you're calling.
Ex., 232917XXXXXXX
Promo until Mar. 16, 2006. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 7181, S. 2006.
₱10 per 3-minute call
For Postpaid subscribers, ₱3.33/min. for succeeding minutes.
Dial 235+10-digit Globe number of the party you're calling.
Ex., 235917XXXXXXX
Promo until Mar. 15, 2006. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1293, S. 2006.
Globe UNLIMITXT
For good na!
₱15 / 1 day
₱25 / 2 days
₱50 / 5 days
For more info, text UNLIMITXT to 2870 for FREE.
Available to Postpaid and Prepaid on Globe-to-Globe calls and texts.
sa Globe posible

Sentimental & Crystal-clear

From page A2-1

On this one, every night the revelation is, I love doing it. I love sharing it. I love that I can move people.

Kurt Vonnegut came to the show in New York—I am dropping a huge name. He came backstage and started talking to me about the music of the show, not the actual music. He kept saying this is like a symphony to him. At the end he turned around, came back and said while pointing at me, "Border Collie." I said what? He said, "You're a Border Collie." I said what does that mean? He said, "You keep barking at us and you get us all into the corral. I've never seen anything like that." He walked away and kept muttering "Border Collie" (laughter). That to me is great—to be able to come back to the pureness of me, alone on stage, in the spotlight, telling stories about the people I love. The revelation is that I can still do it.

How and when did you find out that you have this talent for imitating people?

Oh, I just did it. The first person I ever imitated was **Sid Caesar**. I have spoken to him about it and I love the fact that I know him because his images on television when I was a little kid started me going. In his TV show, "Show of Shows," they did a parody of "The King and I" which was that year's Best Picture. **Yul** I
Best Actor. Sid spoofed him I
in a bald wig. He wore little
and he was barefoot. He stru
grabbed his foot and startec
"Who's smoking in the palac
this was the funniest. I was s
Before I'd go to bed, I'd roll
mas to just below the knee, p
on my head, come out and
smoking?" I grabbed my
stepped on a hot cigarette.
loved that I could do that. I a
good ear.

**For you, what are the ab
comedy to work?**

It should be something tha
take home with them. My fa
dy is the stuff that I've alway
to—the kind that makes t
nod their heads. They don't
sarily have to laugh. If I se
ding, it means something to
reality-based kind of stuff. Y
audience go, well, I do that t
someone who does that. You
personal.

**Since you grew up with an
produced records, you hu
with all these jazz greats. A
you aware of who these peo**

Oh, I was aware of who th
it didn't really hit me until I w
er. You go, wow, look who
Look!

**We were all struck that Bil
no less, took you to your fir**

Her impact didn't really h
was a teenager. I was little, f
old. I keep in touch with th
still with us and still playing.
ful to them because it was t
view, their sense of humor
aged me to get up and perfor
them. I was tap dancing with
joking. I was imitating them–
ing that. I think that was a bi
I got started in entertainn
around that element and m
so generous in their embrac
was never a stage mother o
ing, "Get out there, do this."
seeing us do this stuff so that
couragement that we got.

Once my uncle started r
these people, the house was
all the time. So there was
lie—there was also Louis Ar
all the other people that my
ed over the years. My uncle
available to us as friends. It
special, unique place to grow

**How do you use your celebr
address social or political is**

Every night when the cu
when I walk out on stage, t
listen to myself. I quietly do
firmly believe in. For instan
tour, which was Toronto/B
go/San Francisco before it
Hurricane Katrina hit right
opened in Toronto. I was sh
the lack of support of the go
New Orleans.

If you watched the news
was Mardi Gras time in New
six months later and the ne
look the same as they did six
We have a President leaving
day and New Orleans is in
where's he going? India.

It doesn't matter. He's lea
ter). The country is in terr
wish they would realize th
city needs more than just

Evoking an

From page A2-4

the movie ends on an unsat
plausible note. Other neg
include the American direc
ty to convincingly and sens
the oriental characters' s
overloud and sometimes ev
soundtrack.

More positively, the film
lovely, and Watanabe, Ye
Zhang as Sayuri turn in
portrayals.

All told, however, the m
peak as it should, so viewer
ciate its virtues intellectual
harder time empathizing w
less protagonist. Thus, this
from the past fails to come
for viewers today.

On Star Movies

TONIGHT at 9, "Alien vs Pre
ring **Sanaa Lathan** and
Paul Anderson.

March 19 at 9 p.m., "B.

Sa Globe,
p'wedeng ipagsigawan sa mundo
na graduate ka na rin.

9:00 am
Calling...
Honey - Taiwan

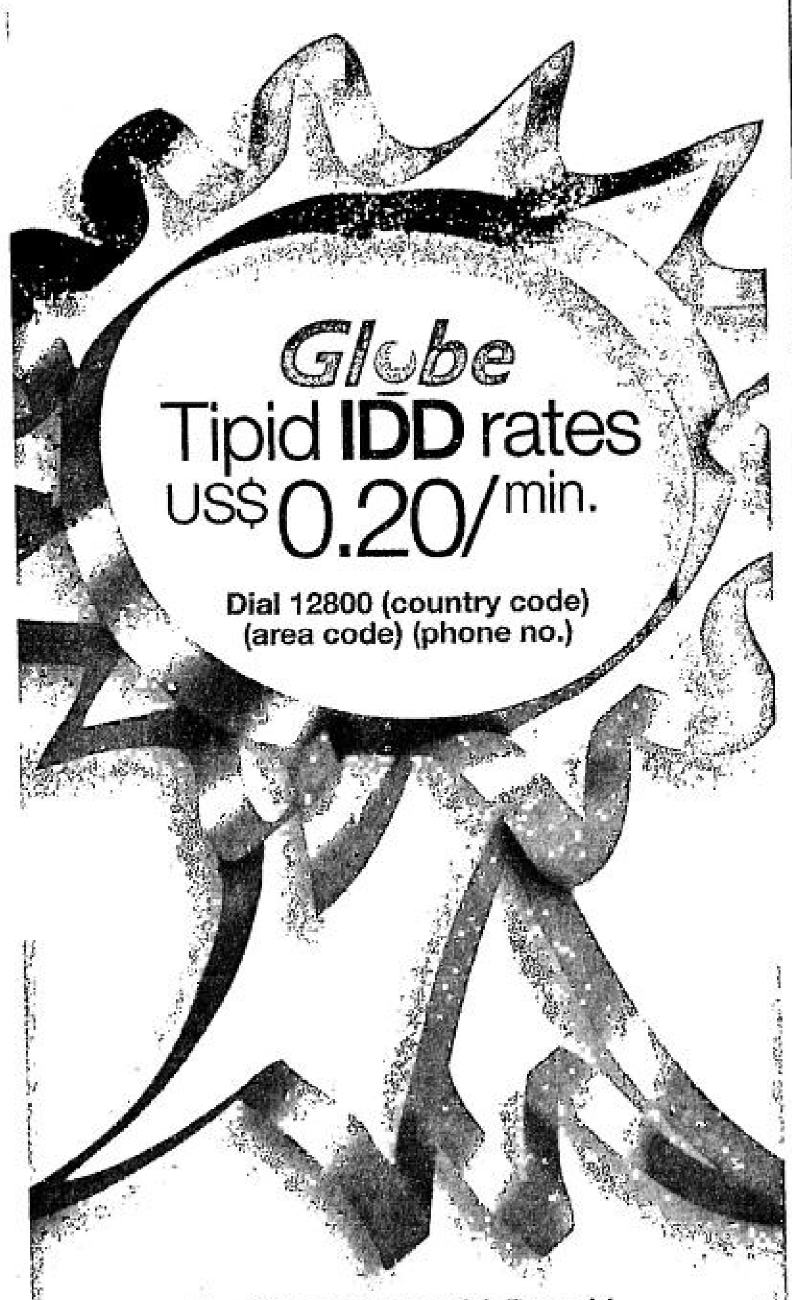
"Graduate na si bunso.
Pati tayo, graduate na rin
sa pagpapaaral."

9:23am
Calling...
Elsa - States

"Tapos na ang kapatid mo. Salamat
at nairaos din namin kayo!"

9:32 am
Calling...
Ate - Canada

"Ate, graduate na pamangkin mo.
Salamat sa mga naitulong mo."



Globe
Tipid IDD rates
US$0.20/min.
Dial 12800 (country code) (area code) (phone no.)

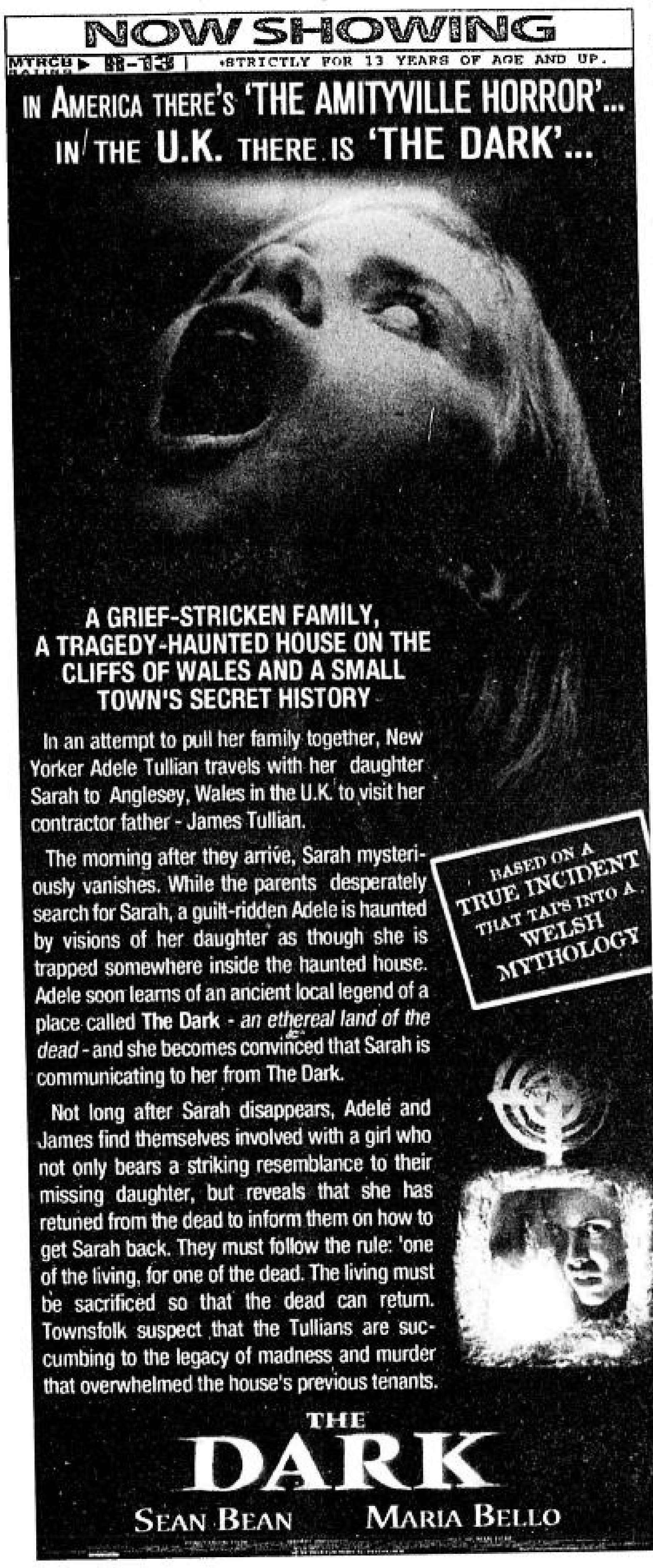
For Globe Postpaid & Prepaid.
Rate applies on calls to Australia, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Kuwait, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, UK, and US.

Only calls with the correct dialing format will qualify for the promo.

Alamin kung anong oras sa kanila.
Text <time> <name of city> to 2333

Promo until Mar. 25, 2006. See print ads for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1295, Series of 2006.

sa Globe posible



NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING R-13 | STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP.
IN AMERICA THERE'S 'THE AMITYVILLE HORROR'...
IN THE U.K. THERE IS 'THE DARK'...

A GRIEF-STRICKEN FAMILY,
A TRAGEDY-HAUNTED HOUSE ON THE CLIFFS OF WALES AND A SMALL TOWN'S SECRET HISTORY

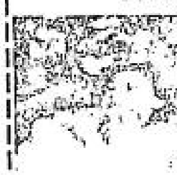
In an attempt to pull her family together, New Yorker Adele Tullian travels with her daughter Sarah to Anglesey, Wales in the U.K. to visit her contractor father - James Tullian.

The morning after they arrive, Sarah mysteriously vanishes. While the parents desperately search for Sarah, a guilt-ridden Adele is haunted by visions of her daughter as though she is trapped somewhere inside the haunted house. Adele soon learns of an ancient local legend of a place called **The Dark** - *an ethereal land of the dead* - and she becomes convinced that Sarah is communicating to her from The Dark.

Not long after Sarah disappears, Adele and James find themselves involved with a girl who not only bears a striking resemblance to their missing daughter, but reveals that she has retuned from the dead to inform them on how to get Sarah back. They must follow the rule: 'one of the living, for one of the dead. The living must be sacrificed so that the dead can return. Townsfolk suspect that the Tullians are succumbing to the legacy of madness and murder that overwhelmed the house's previous tenants.

BASED ON A TRUE INCIDENT THAT TAPS INTO A WELSH MYTHOLOGY

THE DARK
SEAN BEAN MARIA BELLO



Gateway
SENTRONG PANGKULTURA NG PILIPINAS
PELIKULA AT LIPUNAN 2006
"AKTRES"
A TRIBUTE TO MOVIE QUEENS
NOW SHOWING
March 12, 2006 Sunday
6:00 p.m
PAGDATING SA DULO
starring: Rita Gomez
9:00 p.m
ORO, PLATA, MATA
starring: Cherie Gil, Sandy Andolong
Cineplex 10, Gateway Mall, Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City
for more information call:
410-4545 or 410-1467
or visit our web @
www.geocities/a:pelikulaatlipunan2006
Tickets P 80 Only!

FREEDOM! FOREVER!
WARNER BROS. PICTURES
AND
MONSTER RADIO RX 93.1
INVITE YOU TO THE SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING OF
NATALIE PORTMAN HUGO WEAVING
V FOR VENDETTA
AN UNCOMPROMISING VISION OF THE FUTURE FROM THE CREATORS OF *THE MATRIX* TRILOGY
MARCH 14, 2006 (TUESDAY)
GLORIETTA 4 CINEMA 6
7:30PM
MTRCB RATING: R-13
STRICTLY BY INVITATION ONLY
WARNER BROS. PICTURES PRESENTS
IN ASSOCIATION WITH VIRTUAL STUDIOS A SILVER PICTURES PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH ANARCHOS PRODUCTIONS INC. NATALIE PORTMAN "V FOR VENDETTA" HUGO WEAVING STEPHEN REA AND JOHN HURT DARIO MARIANELLI BENJAMIN WAISBREN DAVID LLOYD VERTIGO/DC COMICS THE WACHOWSKI BROTHERS JOEL SILVER GRANT HILL ANDY WACHOWSKI LARRY WACHOWSKI JAMES McTEIGUE
www.VforVendetta.com
TUNE IN TO MONSTER RADIO RX 93.1 TO GET A CHANCE TO WIN FREE INVITES
THE REVOLUTION BEGINS ON MARCH 15 AT CINEMAS NEAR YOU.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

PLAYBILL
700 Sundays!

WITH daughter, Lindsay, left, wife, Janice, and the now famous program

rynner was
y appearing
Capri pants
ck the pose,
screaming,
?" I thought
x years old.
ip my paja-
it a stocking
go, "Who's
foot like I
My family
lways had a

solutes for

people can
orite come-
s gravitated
e audience
even neces-
them nod-
them. It's a
u make the
o or I knew
vant it to be

uncle who
ng around
a kid, were
ple were?
y were. But
as a teenag-
I was with.

lie Holiday,
t movie.
it me until I
ve, six years
se who are
I'm so grate-
heir point of
hat encour-
n in front of
them. I was
-I'm still do-
reason that
ient. I was
folks were
of it. There
father say-
They loved
was the en-

cording all
pen to them
't only Bil-
nstrong and
ncle record-
made them
vas a great,
up.

ity status to
sues?
tain [rises],
iat's when I
hings that I
ice, on this
ston/Chica-
came. here,
before we
cked to see
ernment to

ast night, it
Orleans. It's
ghborhoods
nonths ago.
or China to-
chaos. And

ing (laugh-
ble shape. I
t that great
building. It

needs a whole rethinking. The whole levee system, the whole infrastructure of the islands around New Orleans are disappearing. That's what's making the flooding happen. It's just going to flood again if they build it again and why we have this disaster. I'm so tired of reading, well, I didn't know about this and I didn't know about that.

We raised $549,000 from our audiences across the country and Toronto. Whatever they gave at the end of the show, I asked for a dollar or five dollars because the tickets are expensive (laughter). I said, whatever you give every night, I will personally match. What we raised was, by coincidence, the address of the house I grew up in—549. We raised $549,000 so something was meant to be. I gave the check to President **Clinton** two weeks ago on the stage. That's what I do. I am not one to run off and appear here or protest there. I do it in quiet ways. I don't even like talking about this but that's what we did. I'm proud of what we did.

You are taking a break after this Los Angeles engagement. Where else are you planning to take the show?

We can go pretty much anywhere we want to but I'm a little tired right now. We're going to London and perhaps Australia in the next phase.

What are the options for an actor like you who is over 40 years old?

Well, when I get over 40, I'll let you know (laughter).

How frustrating is it for you to be in a business that is so youth-oriented?

Sometimes you see ads on television for new movies and you go, who's that guy? You sit there and you start feeling like, God almighty, where's my cane? That's why you always have to find stuff. You make yourself work. My manager, **Larry**—we have been together for 32 years—has always said, "You'll always have the stand-up [act]." I went away from it for a while when I was only making movies. The more you stay away from the stand-up, the more you start to get a little afraid of it. I've done the Oscars but I hadn't been on stage in two years.

And now that I have this, I have a bunch of offers to do movies. I don't know if I actually want to do them unless it's really something really special because this fills up a spot in me that no movie could ever do. I'm in front of an audience where I grew up, where I'm best. No one stops me and says, "Cut, let's do it again." Or "Oops, we had a plane" or "Oops, it's lunch time." Three hours for lighting. But with this show, I do it fresh every night. It's different. I try something new every night. I move the audience, they laugh and I get to do it again the next night.

What's next?

My latest project is a three-week-old granddaughter who I'm going to try and get to know when we close on Saturday night. I have a few things that I'm working on—another movie to direct which we're trying to cast now and a couple of other film offers have come in. I am weighing what to do. I love doing the show a great deal. We're going to take a little bit of a break. I've done 275 shows in just a little bit more than a year. I do six, sometimes eight of those a week. I am not tired of doing it. I am just tired physically.

Most likely, I'll open in London in late-September.

E-mail the columnist at rvnepales_5585@yahoo.com.

exotic time gone by

fyingly im-
tive points
or's inabili-
ively vivify
ry, and its
n overlivid

visuals are
h and Ziyi
compelling

vie doesn't
can appre-
but have a
ith its hap-
ragic figure
vidly to life

lator," star-
lirected by

ck in B

ness" with **Ice Cube, Cedric** the Entertainer and **Queen Latifah**.

Mystery series on Hallmark Channel

A LITERARY lady sleuth generates excitement on the Hallmark Channel this month: In "Mystery Woman," which started telecasting at 9 p.m. last March 5, Emmy-nominated actress **Kellie Martin** ("E.R.") plays Samantha "Sam" Kinsey, and amateur gumshoe who inherits her uncle's mystery bookstore and discovers that crime speaks volumes when she uses clues from the books to solve real-life crimes.

Tonight at 9, in the series' "Snapshot" episode, Sam's friend Barbara claims to have a photo proving that her greedy relatives orchestrated the car accident that killed her brother.

Later, Barbara also dies, and Sam's life is in danger as she tries to figure out whodunit. Replays at 9 p.m. on March 16, and 7 p.m. on March 25.

SM CINEMA
movietime
SM DIAL-A-MOVIE 833-9999
CENTERstage
831-1000 loc. 2871, 2873, 2882, 2891
LIVE-LARGE
BIG MOVIES • BIG SHOWS • BIG EVENTS

CENTERstage MAXMEDIA
PRESENT
6
BARBIE & ROCKSTEDDY
MARCH 18, 2006 SATURDAY
SM MANILA CINEMA 4
Tickets available at TICKETWORLD 891-5610/ 891-9999

METRO MANILA

THE PODIUM
16 BLOCKS
11:30 FS / 11:55 MF / 02:10
04:25 / 06 :40 / 08:25 LFS
09:00 LMF / 10:45 END
YOURS, MINE & OURS
12:15 FS / 12:40 MF / 02:45
04:50 / 06:55 / 08:25LFS /
09:00 LMF / 10:30 END

SM MEGACINEMA
1 16 BLOCKS
10:15FS / 10:45 MF
01:00 / 03:15 / 05:30
07:45 / 09:30LFS /
04:30 LMF / 06:00 END
2 YOURS, MINE & OURS
3 LAST HOLIDAY
4 RESERVED
5 THE DARK
6 CASANOVA
7 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
8 UNDERCLASS MAN
9 FEARLESS
10 FINAL DESTINATION 3
11 TIGER BLADE
12 CLOSE TO YOU

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
1 CASANOVA
2 16 BLOCKS
3 THE DARK
4 RESERVED
5 LAST HOLIDAY/ CLOSE TO YOU
6 YOURS, MINE & OURS
7 FINAL DESTINATION 3
8 FEARLESS

SM CITY DASMARINAS
1 FEARLESS
2 16 BLOCKS
3 YOURS, MINE & OURS
4 SYRIANA

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
1 LAST HOLIDAY
2 MEMOIRS OF GEISHA
3 YOURS, MINE & OURS
4 FINAL DESTINATION 3
5 FEARLESS
6 UNDERCLASS MAN
7 16 BLOCKS
8 CLOSE TO YOU
9 THE DARK
10 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
11 I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU
12 AEON FLUX

SM CITY STA. MESA
1 16 BLOCKS
2 THE DARK
3 CASANOVA
4 FINAL DESTINATION 3
5 FEARLESS
6 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
7 YOURS, MINE & OURS
8 LAST HOLIDAY
9 CLOSE TO YOU
10 UNDERCLASS MAN

SM CITY BICUTAN
1 16 BLOCKS
2 UNDERCLASS MAN
3 YOURS, MINE & OURS
4 FEARLESS

SM CITY SAN LAZARO
1 16 BLOCKS
2 FINAL DESTINATION 3
3 THE DARK
4 FEARLESS
5 CASANOVA
6 YOURS, MINE & OURS

SM CITY MANILA
1 16 BLOCKS
2 CASANOVA
3 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
4 FINAL DESTINATION 3
5 YOURS, MINE & OURS
5 FEARLESS
10:30FS / 12:45
03:00 / 05:10
07:20 / 09:05LFS /
09:30 LMF / 11:15 END
7 UNDERCLASS MAN
8 LAST HOLIDAY/ MEMOIRS OF GEISHA
9 CLOSE TO YOU
10 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
11 THE DARK
12 TIGER BLADE

SM CITY SOUTHMALL
1 CASANOVA
2 LAST HOLIDAY/ CLOSE TO YOU
3 RESERVED
4 FEARLESS
5 CASANOVA
5 UNDERCLASS MAN
7 YOURS, MINE & OURS
8 FINAL DESTINATION 3
9 THE DARK
10 RESERVED

SM SUPERCENTER VALENZUELA
1 FINAL DESTINATION 3
2 FEARLESS
3 YOURS, MINE & OURS
4 CLOSE TO YOU

SM CITY SUCAT
1 YOURS, MINE & OURS
2 FEARLESS
3 16 BLOCKS
4 CLOSE TO YOU

Now Showing at SM Cinemas
CASANOVA
Meet Heath Ledger as the legendary seducer, swashbuckler, explorer and adventurer Mr. Giacomo Casanova and watch how he is challenged by Sienna Miller as the charming Francesca Bruni
MTRCB Rating R-13
Only aged 13 and above will be admitted
Distributed by Buena Vista International

LUZON

SM CITY BAGUIO
1 FIREWALL
2 AEON FLUX
3 FEARLESS
4 YOURS, MINE & OURS

SM CITY MARILAO
1 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
2 FEARLESS
3 CLOSE TO YOU
4 UNDERCLASS MAN

SM CITY BATANGAS
1 PINK PANTHER
2 CLOSE TO YOU
3 BLOODRAYNE
4 MUNICH

SM CITY BACOOR
1 UNDERCLASS MAN
2 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
3 16 BLOCKS
4 FINAL DESTINATION 3
5 FEARLESS
6 CLOSE TO YOU
7 THE DARK
8 YOURS, MINE & OURS

SM CITY STA. ROSA
1 CLOSE TO YOU
2 YOURS, MINE & OURS
3 FINAL DESTINATION 3
4 FEARLESS

SM CITY PAMPANGA
1 FEARLESS
2 YOURS, MINE & OURS
3 FINAL DESTINATION 3
4 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
5 WALK THE LINE
6 CLOSE TO YOU

SM CITY LUCENA
1 PINK PANTHER
2 CLOSE TO YOU
3 UNDERWORLD
4 NEW WORLD

SM CITY MOLINO
1 FINAL DESTINATION 3
2 FEARLESS
3 UNDERCLASS MAN
4 16 BLOCKS

VISAYAS MINDANAO

SM CITY CEBU
1 MEMOIRS OF GEISHA
11:30FS / 02:00 / 04:30
07:00 09:24 LFS
09:30 LMF / 11:50 END
2 FEARLESS
10:50FS / 11:00 MF
01:06 / 03:12 / 05:18
07:24 / 09:10 LFS /
09:30 LMF / 11:15 END
3 16 BLOCKS
10:50FS / 11:00 MF
01:06 / 03:12 / 05:18
7:24 / 09:10 LFS
09:30 LMF / 11:15 END
4 YOURS, MINE & OURS
5 ST. ANGE
6 NASAAN SI FRANCIS
7 CLOSE TO YOU
8 AEON FLUX

SM CITY ILOILO
1 YOURS, MINE & OUR
2 RESERVED
3 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
4 FEARLESS
5 CLOSE TO YOU
6 NEW WORLD
7 RESERVED
8 MEMOIRS OF GEISHA

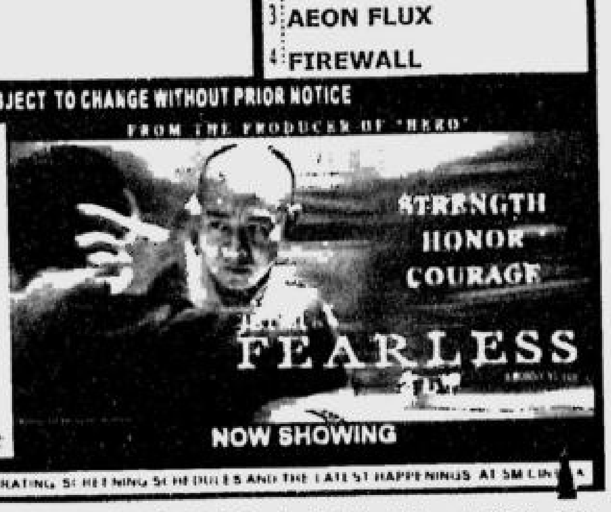
SM CITY DAVAO
1 FIREWALL
2 CRASH
3 CLOSE TO YOU
4 FEARLESS
5 YOURS, MINE & OURS
6 AEON FLUX

SM CITY CAGAYAN
1 WALK THE LINE
2 FEARLESS
3 AEON FLUX
4 FIREWALL

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

EXCLUSIVE
Come and visit the
FEARLESS
霍元甲
EXHIBIT
Actual props and costumes used in the movie are now on display at
SM City Manila Cinema lobby
From February 22 to March 14

FROM THE PRODUCER OF "HERO"



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING MTRCB RATING SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Sa Globe,
mas dama nya ang pagbati mo dahil sa mga graduation gifts na 'to.

Regalong downloads:

TONES
To send polytones,
text **P <keyword> <11-digit Globe no.>** to **2375**
To send monotones,
text **N <keyword> <11-digit Globe no.>** to **2375**
Ex., N gotfriend 09171234567 • P15/Monotone • P20/Polytone

SONG	ARTIST	KEYWORD
That's What Friends Are For	Dionne Warwick	frndsr4
You've Got a Friend	James Taylor	gotfriend
Masaya	Bamboo	masaya
Inuman Na	Parokya Ni Edgar	inumanna

RINGBACK TONES
Text **Give <11-digit Globe no.> <keyword>** to **2332**
Ex., GIVE 09171234567 PA797 • P30/30 days

SONG	ARTIST	KEYWORD
Iskul Bukol	TVJ	IA437
Posible	Rivermaya	IA761
Rainbow	South Border	DA645
Farewell To You My Friends	Raymond Lauchengco	PA797

WALLPAPERS
To send, text **W <keyword> <11-digit Globe no.>** to **2375**
Ex., W DVGRAD03 09171234567 • P20/wallpaper

I Knew you could do it!
DVGRAD03

at long LAST!
DVGRAD16

DVGRAD22

Text **GRAD** to **2375** for other graduation offers.

Regalong load
Globe TM Share a Load
Kahit P1 pwede! May pa-piso-pisong dagdag pa!
Share P1.00 to P150 load!
Text the Prepaid amount to 2+10-digit Globe number of your recipient.

Regalong G-Cash
GLOBE G CASH
Send G-Cash phone-to-phone!
Text <amount> <M-PIN> <optional message> and send to 2882+10-digit Globe number of your recipient.

sa Globe posible

Evoking an exotic time gone by

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

'MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA' IS A VISUALLY STIRring evocation of an exotic time gone by in Japan, when geishas dedicated their lives to making the country's most powerful men experience the rarefied throes of "artistic" passion.

Trained from childhood, only the loveliest girls were taught how to be pluperfect exponents of delight in its highest forms. They perfected the arts of song, music, dance, poetry, conversation and seduction, and some of them became social icons in their own right.

But behind this heady, glamorous and artistic life, there was pain, tragedy and irretrievable loss. Girls were bought, separated from their families, and left to subsume their grief into a blind devotion to their new way of life.

Perhaps worst of all, they had to forego the thrill of falling in love in favor of serving as veritable acolytes and priestesses at the hedonistic altar of love.

This conflicted view of love is at the core of "Memoirs of A Geisha," which traces the long and arduous journey of an awkward girl from an obscure fishing village all the way up to the scented bastions of nobility.

The basic heartlessness of the process that takes cruel possession of her body and spirit is rendered even more vicious by the people she meets, most of whom oppress rather than help her.

There's the famous but aging geisha who resents the new interloper's youth. The owner of the geisha house who wrings as much income as she can out of her new protégée. The men of different races who pretend to adore her, but merely want to posses her.

Happily, our young geisha, who now goes by the name of Sayuri, has her share of benefactors and guardians, including a senior geisha (**Michelle Yeoh**) and a well-born businessman (**Ken Watanabe**).

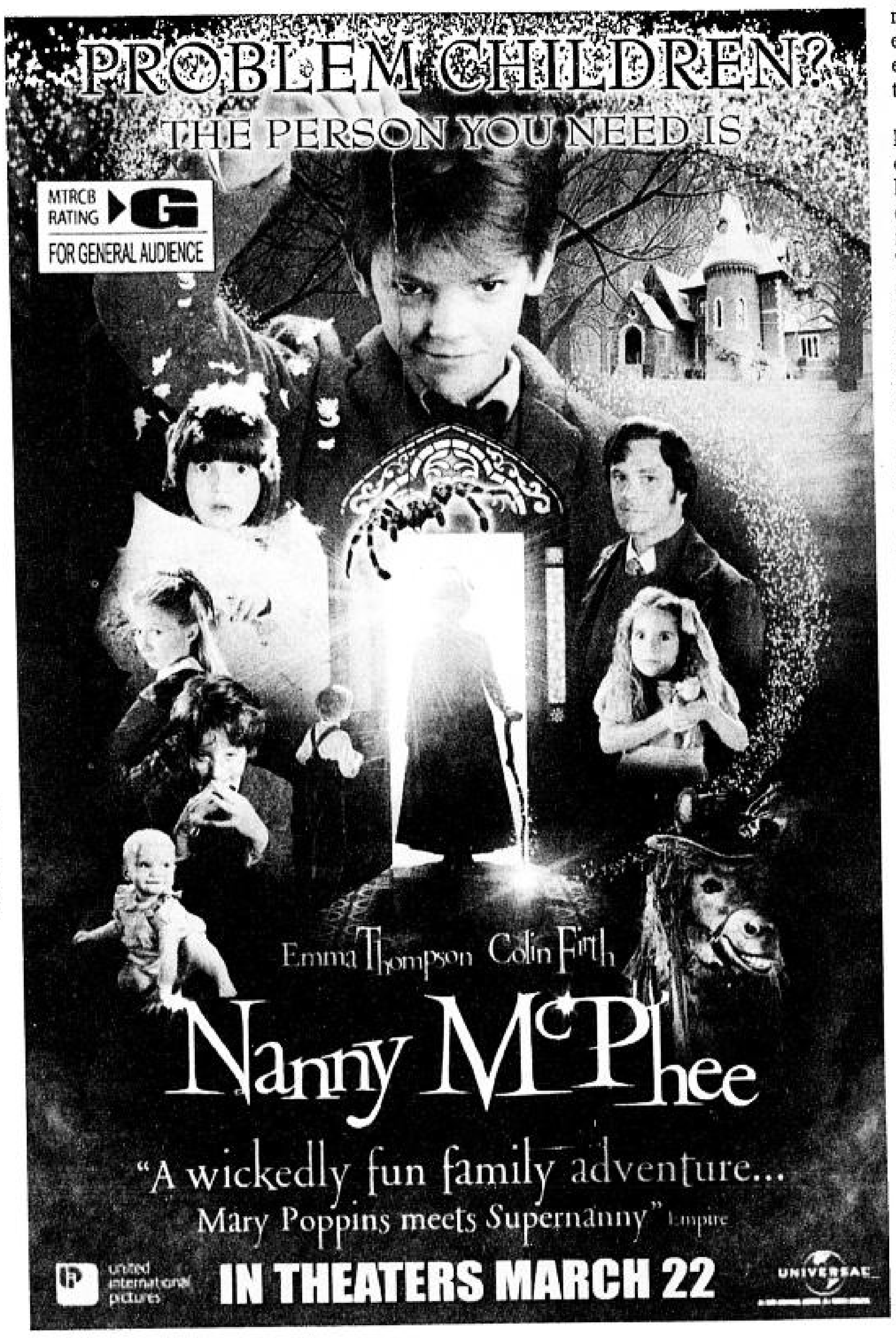
Unknown to the businessman, he's the secret love of Sayuri's life, because he was kind to her once, when she was still a child. Her life was so unhappy and benighted that this single act of kindness had an immense impact on her emerging view of life, and her gratitude knows no bounds.

Somewhere along the way, gratitude deepened into love, despite the fact that such an emotion was forbidden to geishas. Despite this severe structure, Sayuri nursed her hidden feeling until the movie's happy ending.

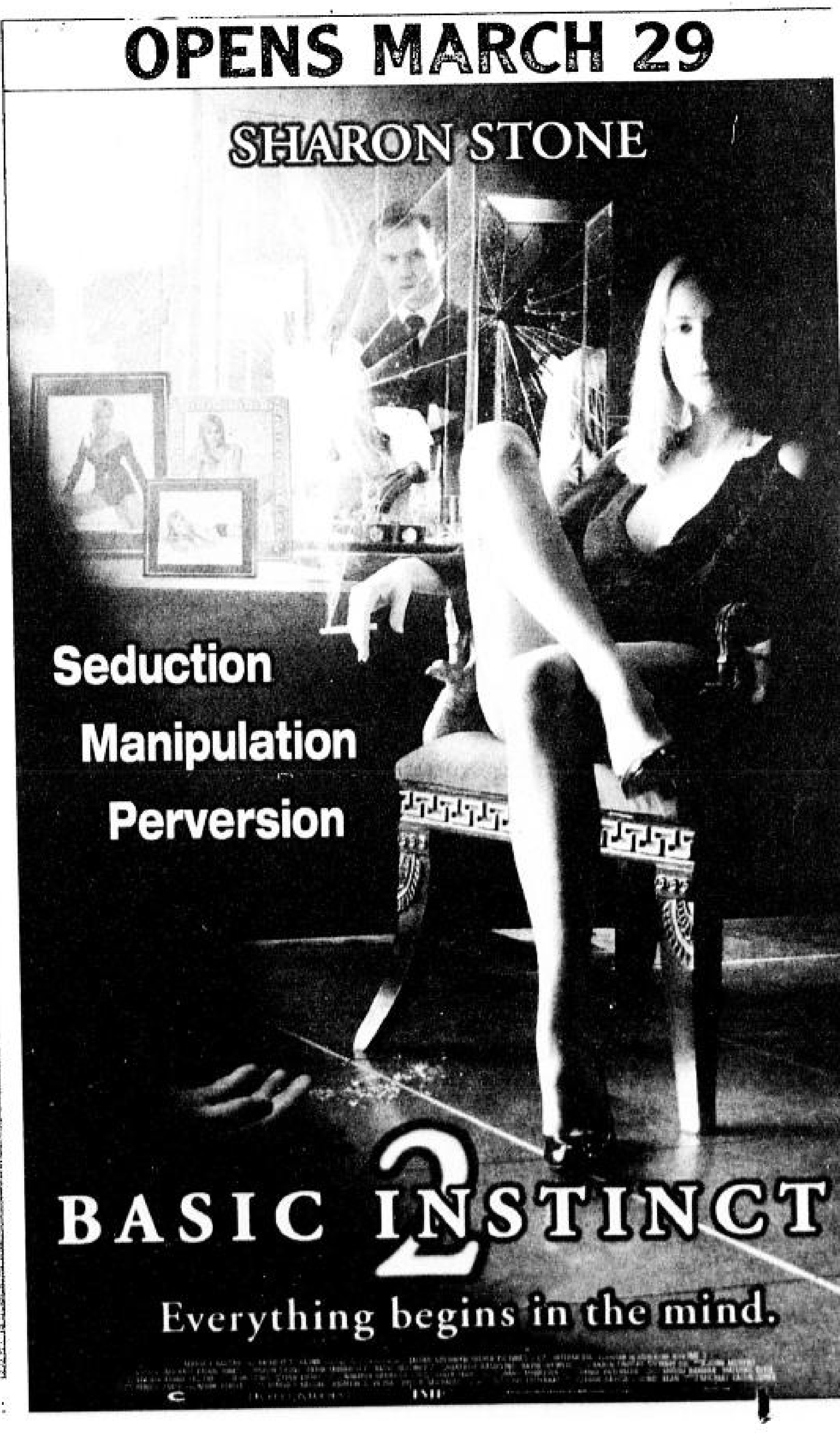
This ending is too easily achieved, so

EVOKING A3

All the movies you want to see on the big screen
NOW SHOWING at the Star Group of Malls
starmall EDSA - SHAW Tel. No. 726.6150
3: Fearless
4: Under Renovation
5: 16 Blocks
METROPOLIS ALABANG star Tel. No. 850 4285
1: Tiger Blade
2: 16 Blocks
3: Casanova
4: Fearless
DOLBY DIGITAL
Everyday Family Day at StarMalls!
Every Tuesdays Stand-Up Comedy, Every Fridays Live Acoustic Bands at Cuba Libre Bar Starmall Edsa
Mondays to Thursdays Live Bands, Every Fridays Stand-Up Comedy at Mark's KTV Metropolis
6 Cycle Mind (Mar. 12) Barbie Almabis (Mar. 17) River Maya (Mar. 26) Metropolis Alabang
Manila Philharmonic Orchestra (Mar. 11) Rachel Ann Go (Mar. 12) Barbie Almabis (Mar. 25) Starmall Edsa.



PROBLEM CHILDREN?
THE PERSON YOU NEED IS
MTRCB RATING G FOR GENERAL AUDIENCE
Emma Thompson Colin Firth
Nanny McPhee
"A wickedly fun family adventure... Mary Poppins meets Supernanny" Empire
united international pictures
IN THEATERS MARCH 22
UNIVERSAL



OPENS MARCH 29
SHARON STONE
Seduction
Manipulation
Perversion
BASIC INSTINCT 2
Everything begins in the mind.

Sa Globe,
mas sweet ang grad pic smile
niya dahil sa regalo mong
camera phonekit.

NOKIA 3220
NOKIA'S MOST AFFORDABLE
- Enjoy video recording
- Download screen savers & themes
- FREE at Plan 800 for Postpaid
only ₱5,790

Sony Ericsson K300i
FEATURE-PACKED CAMERA PHONE
- Listen to MP3 and MPEG4
- Have fun with its image viewer and editor
- FREE at Plan 800 for Postpaid
₱6,990

Siemens C72
LIGHT & HANDY CAMERA PHONE
- E-mail from your phone
- Up to 100 call records
₱4,990
Units will be available by March 20, 2006.

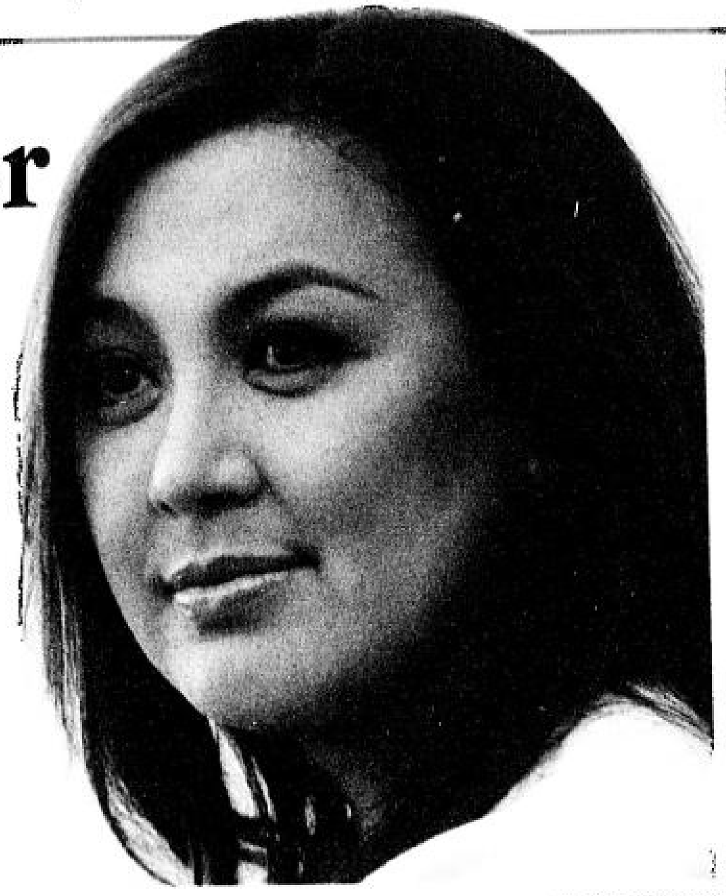
Motorola C261
REMARKABLY STYLISH CAMERA PHONE
- Fashionably slim & sexy
- Access internet sites via WAP
- FREE at Plan 800 for Postpaid
₱6,090

Bird M19
SUPER AFFORDABLE CAMERA PHONE
- Listen to MP3
- Download your favorite games
₱4,790

FREE Unlimited kamustahan sa
Globe UNLIMITXT
Upon using your new phonekit with your new Globe Prepaid SIM, just reload at least P25 to enjoy 5 days of UNLIMITXT for FREE
UNLIMITXT (Globe to Globe) will be activated w/in 24 hours after loading. Just maintain at least P1 load to enjoy the offer. See flyers for details. Promo is extended until April 7, 2006 as approved by DTI-NCR. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0827, Series of 2006.
sa Globe posible

Happy for the right reasons

Sharon Cuneta on cooking, dieting, her private attic and a daughter who told the President she doesn't want to live in Malacañang



JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

By the INQUIRER Entertainment Staff

A CONVERSATION with singer-actress-TV host Sharon Cuneta is like jazz improvisation—it could lead to the most unexpected places: This one went from cooking to diets; from her attic to Thailand; her new TV show, a new acoustic album and a repeat of her last Valentine concert.

But if there's a recurring motif, it would have to be her family—specifically, her kids KC, Frankie and Miel.

TAKE FIVE

You still have beautiful hands.

It's a mommy's hands now—but a mommy who doesn't do hard labor. Ha-ha-ha! When I'm free, I bake and cook a lot.

Who's the biggest fan of your cooking?

The kids. Frankie likes my pasta. My husband Kiko [Sen. Francis Pangilinan] loves native dishes. He also likes my roast beef and turkey. My brother [Chet] is my number one fan. He says he's never had roast beef as good as mine—and he went to school in England, *ha*?

I'm a foodie. I hit over 200 pounds after giving birth to Miel. It was because of all the crash dieting I did over the years. I also gained weight because I nursed Miel for six months and quit smoking. Now, I'm doing it smarter, slower.

What's the most drastic step you've taken to lose weight?

Starvation. Now, it's safer to go though all the medical procedures. Which I did recently …

Do you talk about that medical procedure?

I just call it a medical procedure; I don't specify. I'm just human. I share as much of my life as I can, but I will let people go only so far. What could be more private than one's own body? So I'm saying I went through it only because I want to be honest with you. I did it to jump-start my weight loss. At the moment, I'm on Phase One of the South Beach diet. I refuse to be the poster girl for these medical procedures. I don't want other women to undergo something just because I did. What if they have a weak heart?

Share a memorable moment with Kiko.

One inspired my first acoustic album (under Sony-BMG). We drove to Tagaytay Highlands with Kiko's brothers and their wives. We spent the night singing songs from the 1970s with a guitarist, pianist and violinist. After a while, I was listing down nice songs for the album.

What does Kiko sing?

Anything. Please never *ever* hand him a microphone at a party. He loves James Taylor. We basically like the same songs that we grew up on in the 1970s and 1980s.

But James Taylor songs are hard to sing!

Well, I said he likes to sing; I didn't say he sings well. Ha-ha-ha! When he sings, there's no more magic in the Magic Sing! He does that on purpose. He's so funny!

Is that ring you're wearing special?

Not really.

What does it represent?

Okay, I guess it's special, if only because when I bought it in 1989, I was just starting to save up. That was two years after my first marriage broke up. It represents a time in the life of a struggling young woman who's just beginning to feel better about herself.

You said earlier that you've learned to appreciate everyone in your life.

Everyone. Even those who hurt or betrayed me in the past. This is exactly what I feel: I am just too happy to wish

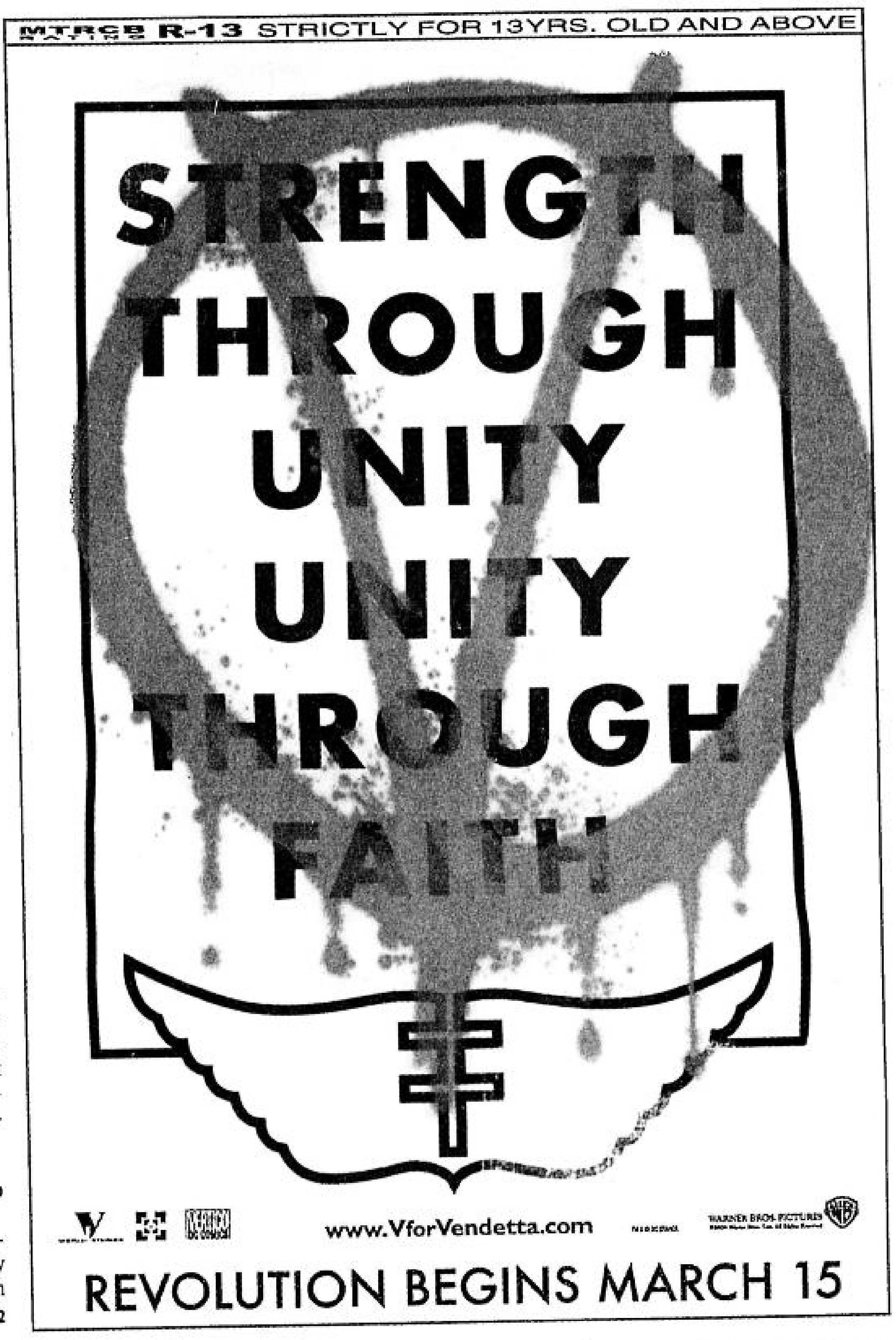
HAPPY/ A4-2

'Crash' on Lifestyle Network

THIS YEAR'S OSCAR BEST Picture, "Crash," will premiere tonight at 9 on the Lifestyle Network.

The ensemble drama starring Sandra Bullock, Brendan Fraser, Don Cheadle, and Terrence Howard beat out frontrunner "Brokeback Mountain" at the 78th Academy Awards, and also won for Best Editing and Best Original Screenplay.

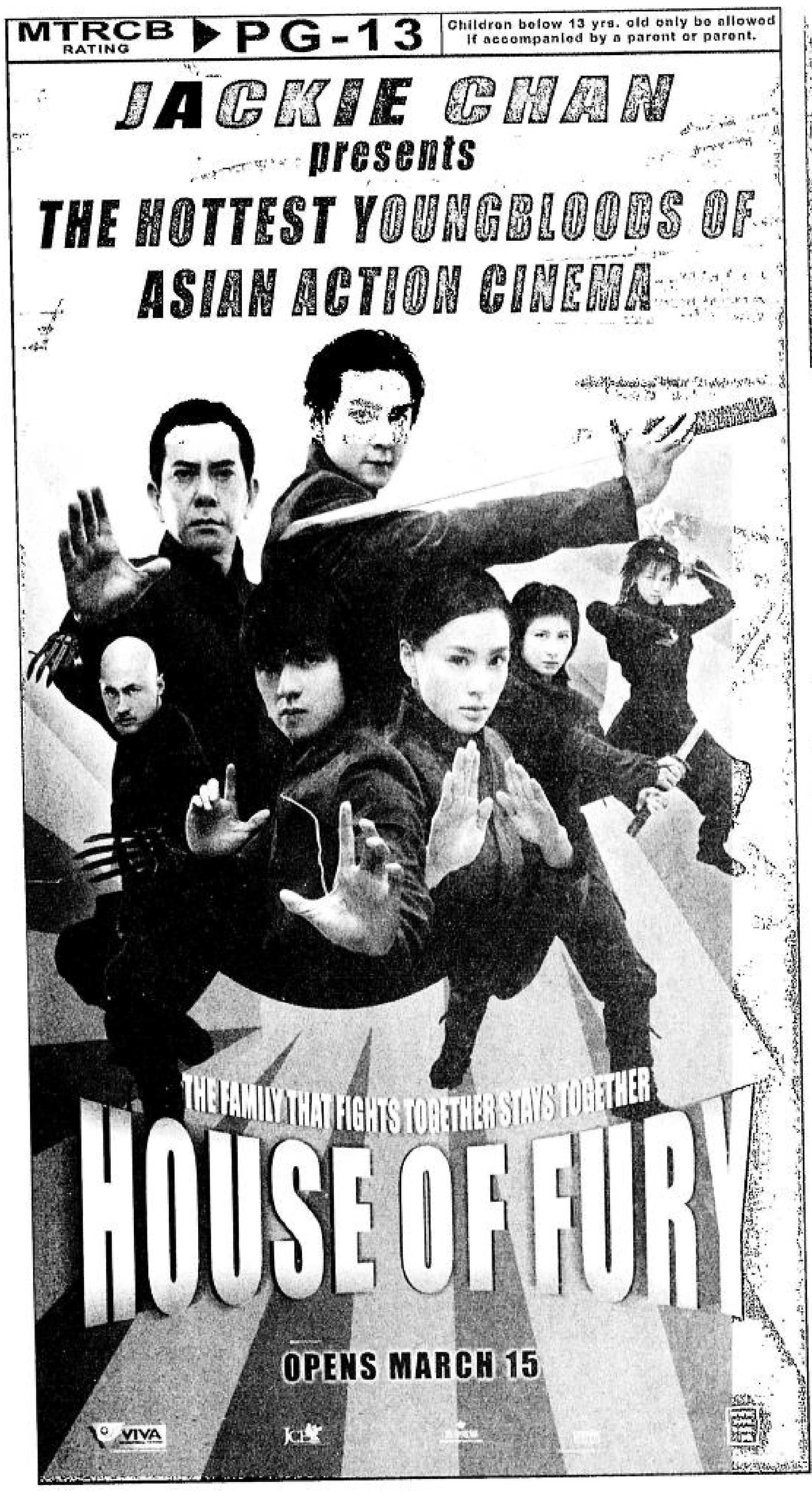
"Crash" also won Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role for Thandie Newton and Best Original Screenplay at the British Academy Awards, and Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture at the Screen Actors Guild Awards.

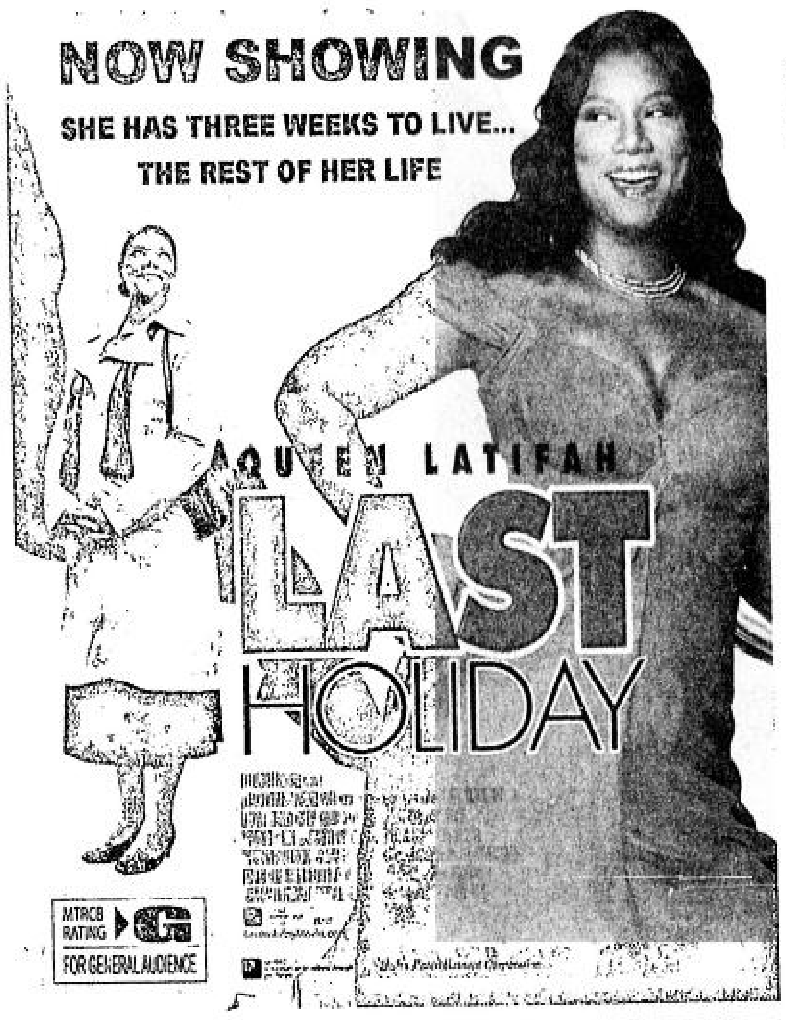


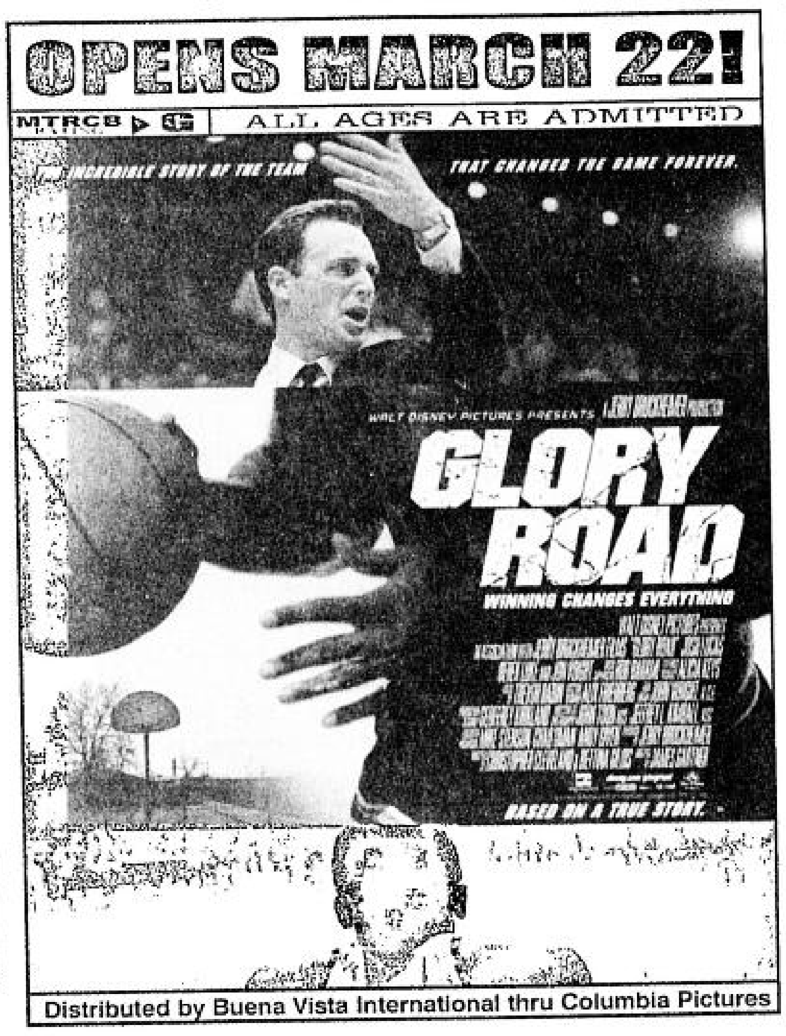
MTRCB RATING R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13YRS. OLD AND ABOVE

www.VforVendetta.com
WARNER BROS. PICTURES
REVOLUTION BEGINS MARCH 15

www.healthyoptions.com.ph
Eat good, live bad longer. Whatever lifestyle you choose, it's always a good choice to be healthy with our pure, natural and organic products.
healthy Options®
better choices | better life


MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or parent.
JACKIE CHAN presents
THE HOTTEST YOUNGBLOODS OF ASIAN ACTION CINEMA
THE FAMILY THAT FIGHTS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER
HOUSE OF FURY
OPENS MARCH 15
VIVA


NOW SHOWING
SHE HAS THREE WEEKS TO LIVE...
THE REST OF HER LIFE
QUEEN LATIFAH
LAST HOLIDAY
MTRCB RATING G
FOR GENERAL AUDIENCE


OPENS MARCH 22!
MTRCB ▶ G ALL AGES ARE ADMITTED
THE INCREDIBLE STORY OF THE TEAM THAT CHANGED THE GAME FOREVER.
WALT DISNEY PICTURES PRESENTS
GLORY ROAD
WINNING CHANGES EVERYTHING
BASED ON A TRUE STORY.
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

"DAD loved Kiko instantly."

Happy for the . . .

From page A4-1

anyone any kind of ill. How could I, when I've reached a [stage] where I'm so peaceful, content and happy for the right reasons? I have my family, my *tres Marias* (her three daughters) and my husband who doesn't give me headaches.

I figure that everyone I've ever met in my life has taught me something. For example, I had a boyfriend who taught me how to sit down and calmly talk about my feelings. All relationships in your life teach you something. I think all of them prepared me for my marriage to Kiko.

Was there ever anyone who could just make you listen?

All of them *naman*. Especially Kiko. But the first person who could always do that was my father (the late Pasay City Mayor Pablo Cuneta). He was a man of few words, but every single thing he taught me has stuck in my mind. He was very poetic. Once, he told me: "*Ang ibong iniwanan ng kasuyong ibon, di na babalikan, dumating man ang hapon.*" That was all he said and then he hugged me.

What did your dad say about Kiko?

Dad loved him instantly. He was immediately impressed. I think, he sensed it. My dad had so many children with so many women. He knew how to look at a man and he could tell right away if the guy was anything like him!

Did he verbalize his fondness for Kiko?

Yes. He took my side when people were criticizing Kiko at the start of our relationship. If my dad disapproved, though, he'd tell me right away. Once he said about a guy: "He's disrespecting you." He also taught me: "As soon as a man lays a hand on you, leave him. *Ang tapik magiging sampal; ang sampal magiging sapak* (The nudge will become a slap; the slap into a punch)."

HAPPY/ A4-4

glorietta GREENBELT ALABANG TOWN AYALA CENTER CEBU MARKET! MARKET! Ayala Malls Lovemall!

AT THE CINEMAS

Reserve your tickets by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations
Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification please call 729 7777

THX

G1 GLORIETTA 1	1 DATE MOVIE	2 16 BLOCKS	3 UNDERCLASSMAN	4 THE DARK
G4 GLORIETTA 4	1 CASANOVA	2 YOURS, MINE & OURS	3 THX 16 BLOCKS 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	
	4 CAPOTE	5 FEARLESS	6 DATE MOVIE	7 LAST HOLIDAY
GB1 GREENBELT 1	1 DATE MOVIE	2 CASANOVA		
GB3 GREENBELT 3	1 THX DATE MOVIE 1:40, 3:35, 5:30, 7:25, 9:20, 11:15 GUARANTEED SEATS	2 THX 16 BLOCKS 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS		
	3 LAST HOLIDAY 1:50, 4:15, 6:40, 9:05, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 YOURS, MINE & OURS 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 CASANOVA 1:50, 4:15, 6:40, 9:05, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	
ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX 16 BLOCKS	2 CASANOVA		
	3 DATE MOVIE	4 LAST HOLIDAY	5 YOURS, MINE & OURS	
ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 16 BLOCKS	2 DATE MOVIE	3 YOURS, MINE & OURS	4 ST. ANGE
M2 MARKET! MARKET!	1 16 BLOCKS	2 YOURS, MINE & OURS		
	3 UNDERCLASSMAN	4 CASSANOVA	5 DATE MOVIE	

At the Activity Center

Customer Service text hotline: 0917 6095900
Customer Service Numbers: Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm
Greenbelt - 752 4853; from 11am to 12mn
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324
Market! Market! - 886 7519

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Teenzone Event March 12, 2006	Anson's Emporium Exhibit March 12 to 31, 2006
AYALA CENTER CEBU	MARKET! MARKET!
Ayala Foundation's Social Development Week March 11, 2006	Woman's Today Summer Picks Event March 16, 2006

GREENBELT
Ayala Greenbelt's Chocolate Festival
February 13 to March 15, 2006

Greenbelt Onstage
Repertory Philippines presents
I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE
at REP's Globe Theater - March 10 to 12, 2006
For inquiries, pls. call 887-0710

Ayala MUSEUM
Come & view the 20th ASIAN INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBIT
For inquiries, please call 757-7117 to 21 loc 29.
Or visit www.ayalamuseum.org

Witness why Hoffman was hailed as BEST ACTOR by several award giving bodies including the 2006 Academy Awards®!
Philip Seymour Hoffman
capote
The manipulation of the master manipulator
"★★★★ (Highest Rating)... exciting portrait of a singular artist... Philip Seymour Hoffman's brilliant transformation into the mannered writer takes your breath away."
— Claudia Puig, USA Today
NOW ON ITS 2ND WEEK EXCLUSIVELY AT GLORIETTA 4 CINEMAS
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 13
For screening schedule, pls. call 729-7777

FREEDOM! FOREVER!
NATALIE PORTMAN
HUGO WEAVING
V FOR VENDETTA
AN UNCOMPROMISING VISION OF THE FUTURE FROM THE CREATORS OF THE MATRIX TRILOGY
MTRCB RATING: R-13
www.VforVendetta.com
OPENS MARCH 15 AT AYALA MALLS CINEMAS

Lovemall!
BPI EXPRESS CREDIT
2 mad about 'em all!
Just Got Bigger and Better!
Shop in Ayala Malls using your BPI Express Credit Card for a chance to win a Nissan Patrol 4x4 in the Grand Draw and fabulous prizes in the Monthly Draws.
From November 25, 2005 to March 31, 2006
REAL 0%
S.I.P.
PATROL

ARANETA CENTER

Gateway Ali MALL Farmers Plaza

DON'T MISS THIS SPECIAL ONE-NIGHT-ONLY PERFORMANCE!

Araneta Center presents

sergio mendes &brasil 2006

a celebration of his timeless hits

live in manila

march 18/8pm/araneta coliseum

TICKET PRICES ARE P5224, P3657, P2612, P1829 & P839 ONLY

SOCIETE GENERALE · Globe PLATINUM · Philippine Charity Sweepstake Office · The Richmonde Hotel · STAR · 96.3WRock · SONY BMG

For ticket inquiries, please call TicketNet at 911-5555 or log on to www.ticketnet.com.ph

THE ONLY CINEPLEX IN THE COUNTRY Gateway CINEPLEX*10 DOLBY DIGITAL-EX

THE DARK 1:00 / 3:10 / 5:20 / 7:30 / 9:40	UNDERCLASSMAN 12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30	16 BLOCKS 11:45 / 2:15 / 4:45 / 7:15 / 9:45	GLOBE PLATINUM CINEMA
THE LAST HOLIDAY 1:50 / 4:20 / 6:50 / 9.20 FINAL DESTINATION 3 1:30 / 3:40	YOURS, MINE & OURS 12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30	DATE MOVIE 1:30 / 3:30 / 5:30 / 7:30 / 9:30	16 BLOCKS 1:40 / 4:10 / 6:40 / 9:10
THE FEARLESS 12:30 / 2:40 / 4:50 / 7:00 / 9:40	CASANOVA 2:00 / 4:30 / 7:00 / 9:30	ORO PLATA MATA 6:00 PAGDATING SA DULO 9:00	ONLY P120 ADMISSION GLOBE PLATINUM P249/P299

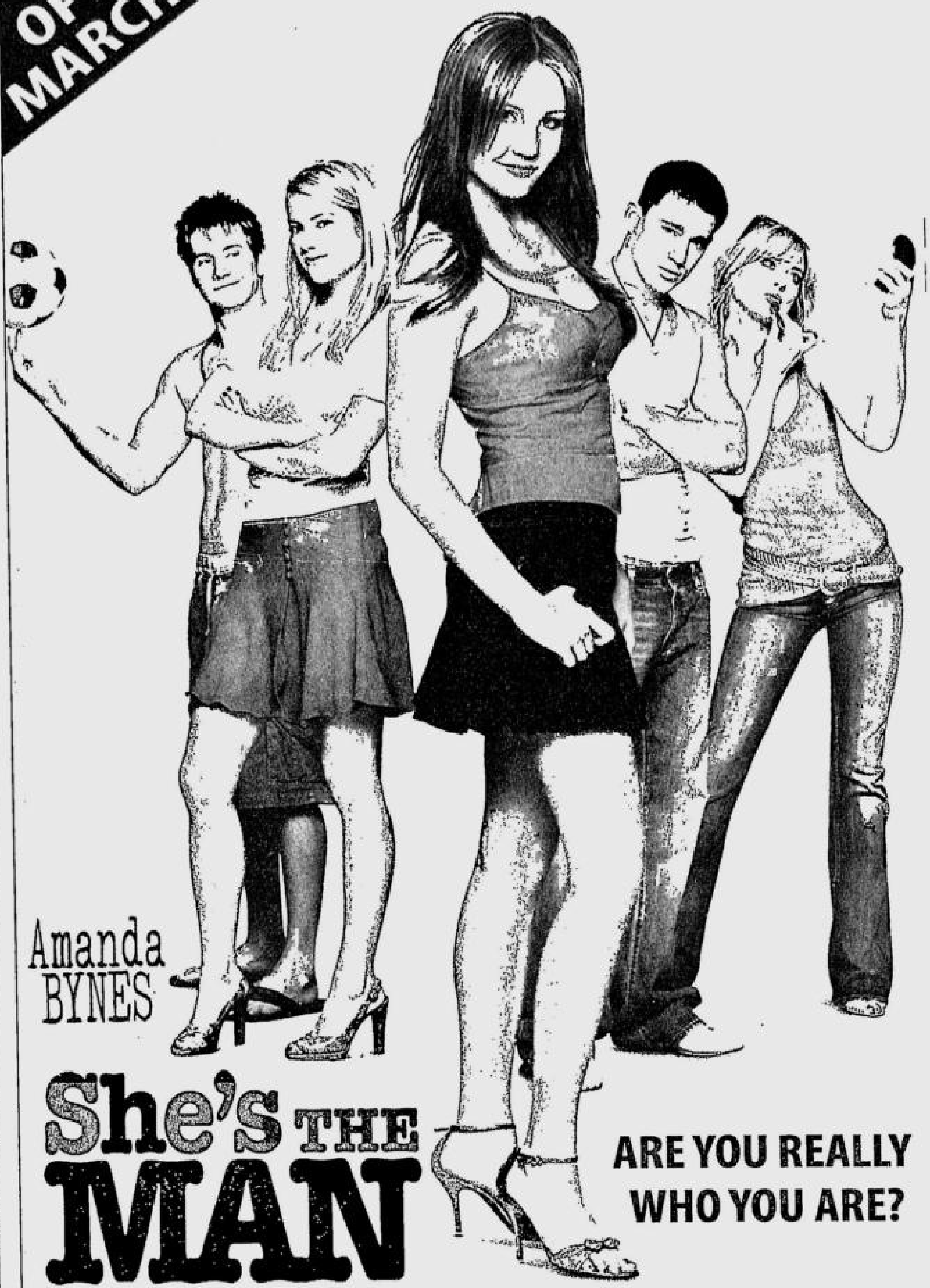
Ali MALL CINEMAS

16 BLOCKS 12:40 / 3:10 / 5:40 / 8:10	THE FEARLESS 11:25 / 1:35 / 3:45 / 5:55 / 8:05	DATE MOVIE 12:30 / 4:30 / 5:30 / 8.30
TIGER BLADE 12:20 / 2:20 / 4:20 / 6:20 / 8:20	THE DARK 11:50 / 2:00 / 4:10 / 6:20 / 8:30	DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

LOG ON TO WWW.ARANETACENTER.NET FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES

OPENS MARCH 15

LOVE IN DISGUISE



Amanda BYNES

She's THE MAN

ARE YOU REALLY WHO YOU ARE?

LAKESHORE ENTERTAINMENT AND DREAMWORKS PICTURES PRESENT A DONNERS' COMPANY PRODUCTION AMANDA BYNES "SHE'S THE MAN" CHANNING TATUM LAURA RAMSEY VINNIE JONES ROBERT HOFFMAN ALEX BRECKENRIDGE WITH JULIE HAGERTY AND DAVID CROSS [illegible] JENNIFER HAWKS [illegible] NATHAN WANG [illegible] KATIA STANO [illegible] MICHAEL JABLOW A.C.E. [illegible] DAVID J. BOMBA [illegible] GREG GARDINER [illegible] TOM ROSENBERG GARY LUCCHESI MARTY EWING [illegible] LAUREN SHULER DONNER AND EWAN LESLIE [illegible] WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE [illegible] EWAN LESLIE [illegible] EWAN LESLIE AND KAREN McCULLAH LUTZ & KIRSTEN SMITH [illegible] ANDY FICKMAN

M LHUILLIER

NUMERO UNO NG BAYAN

QUICK CASH LOANS

ML FAMILYA INSURANCE PLANS · M. Lhuillier Jewellers · ML KWARTA PADALA

www.mlhuillierinc.com

OGIE ALCASID LUMILIPAD

includes

"Lumilipad Ako" (Bench Theme Song)

"Minamahal Kita"

(Theme from 'Agawin Mo Man Ang Lahat')

plus duets with

Regine Velasquez, Sarah Geronimo

Rachelle Ann Go, Jinky Vidal & **Jaya**

Album Launch Today at S.O.P. 12NN

now flying! www.ogiealcasid.ph www.viva.com.ph

GMA · myx · VIVA RECORDS CORP. A VIVA ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY

LUMILIPAD MALL TOUR: March 12 SM San Lazaro, March 19 SM Bacoor, March 25 SM Fairview, March 26 SM Sucat Bldg B,

LUMILIPAD BAR TOUR: March 16 Bagaberde (Roxas Blvd), March 18 Klownz (Angeles, Pampanga), March 23 Metro Bar, March 30 Bagaberde (Pasig), April 29 Klownz (Quezon Ave.)

'I used to pray for someone I could send to school'

From page A4-2

Have you ever considered conducting workshops on life?

I do that on my TV show. It's because I say what I feel.

We heard there were at least two suggestions for the title of your new show (on ABS-CBN)?

It's funny. One suggestion was "Sharon on Sundays." But then I thought the acronym would be "SOS." With "Sundays With Sharon," it would be "SWS." We eventually settled on "Sharon."

Was that because with titles like "SOS" and "SWS," viewers might think it's a charity show?

It used to be so easy to help people. They're happy with a simple nebulizer, a wheelchair or a washing machine—the usual requests on the "Wish Upon a Mega" segment of (her former musical-variety program) "The Sharon Cuneta Show." Once, on my old talk show, "Sharon," we tried to help a family with a *sari-sari* store showcase. They were not satisfied; they asked for a tricycle, plus a house and lot! I cried my eyes out. My husband reminded me that I can't solve all of the world's problems. That's why now, when I help, I do it quietly. I only want to make the rest of my years in this business meaningful.

Is this the effect of your being an avid fan of the old Chichay sitcom "Ginang Milyonarya"?

I watched it a lot when I was a kid. On that TV show, Lola Ching had a trusted driver, played by Rudy Manlapaz. He would tell her about people that needed help and she would send an attaché case full of cash. But it was all kept a secret. Yes, I guess that show influenced me.

In my teens, I promised my dad that I would send two young girls to school. One took a two-year secretarial course instead of using the money for a four-year degree. The other one got pregnant by a married man. I was so disappointed, I prayed to God: All I'm asking for is to meet somebody decent that deserves to be sent to school.

Would you consider playing "Ginang Milyonarya" on TV?

I'd love to. But it would have to be written very cleverly and creatively. People need to understand that help that comes from the heart has to be accepted gracefully. If you think hard about it, though, you can't blame them. Times are so hard, that they'd grab anything. In all my 40 years, I've never seen the Philippines in a worst state. I tell Kiko: I love my country, but when push comes to shove, I'll always be a mother first and I won't hesitate to migrate if there's already chaos on the streets. He'd get so upset: "You, of all people! If everyone left, our country will have no future!"

He's the same person who says you cannot solve the world's problems!

Oh, but he also says, "Don't give up. We all have to do our share. Look at Singapore." Of course I'd tell him that we don't have anyone like Lee Kuan Yew… Or look at Thailand, you'll never meet a Thai who'd speak ill of the King. They revere him and the Queen. He's respected because he acts respectably. A leader has to show the people that he is worth their reverence and awe.

Do you ever see yourself living in Malacañang?

When someone brings that up, the first thing that comes to mind is: I can just imagine how many people are in such a hurry to live there someday. I'm too happy living in my own house, hoarding things in my attic and my messy side of the bedroom wall.

My attic is a glamorized *bodega*. It's three-fourths the floor area of one level in our house. I really built it for all my *abubot* (stuff): all the photos, posters, DVDs, even the standees (from my endorsements). They're all there—SuperFerry, pH Care, Colgate. The standees probably have a convention in the attic every night!

What was Frankie's response when President Macapagal-Arroyo asked if she wanted to live in Malacañang someday?

Very innocently, she told the President: Oh no, I live in Laguna.

WHO WILL BE THIS YEAR'S STARSTRUCK ULTIMATE SURVIVORS?
FIND OUT LIVE!
THE FINAL JUDGMENT
March 12, SUNDAY
Marikina Sports Park
FREE ADMISSION
JACKIE
IWA
GIAN
MARKY
STARSTRUCK
DREAM BELIEVE SURVIVE
The NATIONWIDE INVASION
Gates open at 4:00 p.m. Show starts at 7:00 p.m.
Watch it on GMA at 9:30 p.m.!
PLUS!
Find out who will be declared the first-ever StarStruck Sole Survivor!
The Sole Survivor is set to win:
P 2.5 Million House and Lot from Filinvest East County
P 300,000 Cash from Calayan
P 1.5 Million Business Package from Ink for Less
as part of the biggest prize package in the history of Philippine reality TV!
Over P 10 million worth of prizes to be won!
First come, first served • No ticket, no entry • No tickets will be distributed at the venue

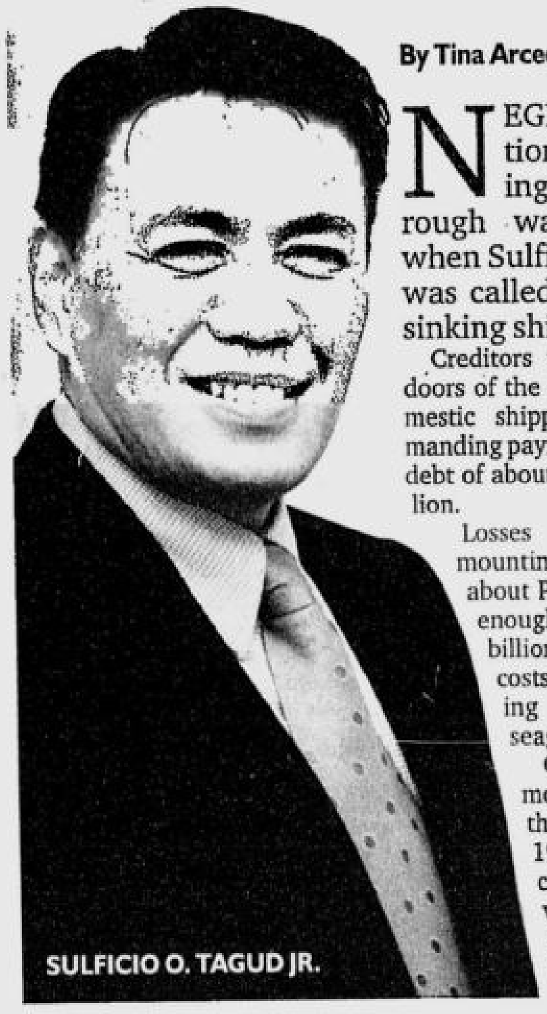
IN THE ACTION TRADITION OF 'HEAT'!
WHILE THE HEADLINES ARE BEING BROADCAST, THE WORST SCENARIO IS HAPPENING.
SÉLECTION OFFICIELLE
JOHNNIE TO
BREAKING NEWS
Starring RICHIE JEN
KELLY CHEN NICK CHEUNG
CHEUNG SUI FAI
Directed by JOHNNIE TO
Distributed by Solar Entertainment Corporation
IN THEATERS MARCH 15

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday BIZ

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

'If you overanalyze, you will be paralyzed'


SULFICIO O. TAGUD JR.

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

NEGROS NAVIGATION Co. was sailing through very rough waters in 2004 when Sulficio O. Tagud Jr. was called in to save the sinking ship.

Creditors were pounding on doors of the country's oldest domestic shipping company, demanding payment for a combined debt of about P1.8 billion.

Losses were mounting because sales of about P2.5 billion were not enough to cover the P2.6 billion in direct operating costs, and it was fast losing the trust of the seagoing public.

Given its myriad and mounting problems that stemmed from the 1997 Asian financial crisis, most executives would not have touched Nenaco with a ten-foot pole.

But not Tagud.

Tagud has never run away from a challenge, and the prospect of turning around a revered name in the shipping industry was too hard to resist.

Thus, he took over the helm of the company starting March 2004 as the appointed receiver by the court, which granted Nenaco's petition for protection from its creditors to give it time and resources needed to get back on its feet.

FIRST JOB

With the legal issues sorted out, Tagud's next order of business was to win back the patronage of the passengers who shied away from Nenaco because some of the trips were cancelled or delayed.

"We needed to impress upon the public that we were in business," Tagud tells the INQUIRER. "To do that, we made sure that trip schedules were kept."

Nenaco serves major destinations like Iloilo, Bacolod, Tagbilaran, Boracay, Roxas, Estancia, Manila and Palawan, with the Iloilo-Bacolod area as its stronghold.

To raise badly needed revenues, Tagud says the Metro Pacific group, which owns Nenaco, put in about P250 million to complete the repair and upgrade of four more ships, bringing the fleet up to nine vessels by February 2005.

Tagud says he also had to oversee the further reduction in Nenaco's personnel from about 900 when he came in to the current force of 600, only 390 of whom are regular employees.

Tagud says it was especially painful for him to see some people let go in the course of the restructuring of Nenaco. But it was something that had to be done to keep the company afloat.

"One of the factors that made me accept this job is the prospect of helping these people, mostly blue-collar workers who won't get a job elsewhere, preserve their jobs," Tagud says. "But if we don't do this, the company will have to close and everybody will lose their jobs."

Tagud displayed the same indomitable will when he pursued the plan for Nenaco to get back the profitable food and ticketing business from third-party providers.

The decision was met with much protests and even threats to his person as many companies have been profiting for years from the food and ticketing businesses, and are loathe to let their cash cows go.

But Tagud forged on and Nenaco got the businesses back, and more profitable they have become.

The cut in costs and the increase in revenue have resulted in Nenaco reducing its net loss at the end of 2004 to P400 million from over P1 billion at the end of 2003.

By the end of last year, Nenaco posted a modest profit of P17 million and the company is looking at improving further on its bottom line this year.

Forcing the issue on the food and ticketing businesses was not the first time that Tagud went out on a limb to do what he believes is right, even if it's unpopular or may come at a cost.

Tagud, for instance, zoomed into national prominence in 2003 when he blew the whistle on the alleged overpricing of the President Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard, the construction of which went up to P1.1 billion.

Tagud was a director of the Public Estates Authority at that time, and he was instrumental in the filing of graft cases involving former top executives of PEA and officials of the Commission on Audit before the Sandiganbayan.

The hearings on the case continue and he remains a principal witness.

Tagud likewise stood up to Manuel Villar in 1998 and convinced him as chief executive officer of C&P Homes that going into middle-income housing was the right thing to do.

Tagud led the team in reorienting C&P Homes from the declining "low-cost" housing market to the growing mid-income housing market, pioneering and tapping more extensively the overseas Filipino workers when no housing developers dared in the early '90s.

"Management for me is really just about common sense," Tagud says, "if you overanalyze, you will be paralyzed."

He has been living by this principle since he was six, when he started helping his mother sell

IF YOU/ B2

The rich do not buy a house to put a roof over their heads

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

THE RICH ARE A DIFFERENT BREED. They indulge in activities that would shock others and they buy things for reasons different from those of Juan de la Cruz.

Take real estate purchases, for example. While most Filipinos buy property because they need a roof over their heads, the rich buy houses, according to their "life stage."

Angela de Villa-Lacson has been in charge of the high-end real-estate market of the Ayala group for the past five years. Recently, the group created the Ayala Land Premier whose job it is to sell the group's real estate projects with price tags of P6 million to P55 million (like the penthouse of the Roxas Triangle in Makati).

Lacson says the rich are prompted to buy property "because of a change in their life stage."

The Ayala Land Inc. senior vice president explains: As young adults, they are bought condo units by their parents. Locations of these units must be near "where the action is and the gimmick places."

When they marry and have children, they move to a bigger condo unit or buy a house. When opting for a house, there are usually trade-offs, such as living in an area far from the commercial district and the night spots, but nearer schools and with better surroundings.

When the children grow up and get their own places, the couple then moves back to a smaller place, such as a condo unit, because the house becomes too big.

At the same time, the rich do not just buy one house. They buy several.

Ayala Land Premier, for example, has "suki" clients who buy in almost every development project of the group.

This habit of the rich has actually created "ghost towns" in some areas in the metropolis because the rich do buy property, but do not always build on it; or build beautiful houses that nobody lives in because they look at these as investments or future houses of their unmarried children.

LACSON

But while Lacson admits that "there is a core group of buyers" who buy in every new Ayala Land development, sometimes without even seeing the area, they do not have any "ghost towns."

She says ALI is always able to attract homeowners who live in the developments.

And these buyers, she says, are not high profile and they prefer the privacy afforded by some of the developments of Ayala.

Over the past five years, changes have occurred in the real property market that have prompted Ayala Land Inc., the real estate arm of the Ayala conglomerate, to further define its market.

Thus ALI now has three residential real estate arms—Ayala Land Premier which is its most high end; Avida Land Corp., formerly the Laguna Properties Holdings Inc. (LPHI), which targets real estate buyers of property worth P700,000 to P3 million; and Community Innovations Inc., which focuses on clients who can afford units costing P2.5 million to P8 million.

THE RICH/ B2

THE CLUBHOUSE at the Ayala Greenfields

Tunay na kada-segundo ang singil! Matipid!

HELO? HELO?
AKIN PRESYO AKIN PRESYO
TAPAT NA! TAPAT NA!
AKIN BIGAY AKIN BIGAY
IYO MURA. IYO MURA.
IKAW 'WAG IKAW 'WAG
NA TAWAD. NA TAWAD.
OKE? OKE?
OKE, OKE! OKE, OKE!

NOON	NGAYON
(8 SEC.)	(8 SEC.)
₱6.50	₱0.80

₱0.10 PER SECOND
Diyes sentimos kada-segundo
(Globe-to-Globe)

JUST DIAL:
232 + 10-DIGIT GLOBE NO.
EX: 232917XXXXXXX

Super savings sa eksaktong per second charging! Hindi na by the minute!
Promo is open for Postpaid and Prepaid subscribers.

sa Globe posible

Promo extended 'til March 16, 2006 as approved by DTI-NCR. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 7181, S. 2005.

FIRST boutique at the Shangri-la Plaza Mall

'Good value, latest trends, sell'

"ALL CUSTOMERS LOOK FOR GOOD VALUE and fashion products that are on-trend," says Arcadia Group's international director Amir Afkami.

The Arcadia Group is the United Kingdom's largest fashion retailer with nearly 2,000 stores worldwide including those of Topshop, Topman, Dorothy Perkins and Wallis, the latest women's fashion brand from the UK to enter the Philippines.

"With that in mind, we recently introduced to the highly competitive Philippine market a brand (Wallis) that gives customers with the purchasing power, great and distinctively different styles," says Afkami.

Targeted toward the 35 and above age bracket, Wallis' clothes and accessories conjure collections that are individual and distinguished. They target career-driven and modern women who want to look ageless and who want to exude that "forever 30" spirit.

"The Wallis woman has a keen eye on looking sexy and glamorous," Afkami adds. "It has a very distinct style which sets it apart from the rest of high street fashion."

Launching any brand internationally is challenging especially when there is a lower level of recognition in the local market. In marketing their products in countries with different cultures (from Great Britain and Germany to Malaysia and the Middle East), they try to look for differences in their markets and adjust their offer to meet local tastes and needs.

"The most striking element of the Philippine market, we observe, is the friendliness of everyone—from the store staff to the customers," he explains. "With Wallis, we found out that customers very easily understood the brand and its look. A lot of customers very quickly became attached to the brand."

The creativity of Arcadia's designers, quality merchandise and the ability of the company to identify and give what a particular market wants are basically what make the Arcadia Group one of the strongest and most popular fashion purveyors in the world today.

The history of the Arcadia Group or Burton Group (as it was then called) can be traced back to 1909 when the first Burton stores were established.

The group as it stands today came together after a number of acquisitions in the early '70s and has gone through many changes since then.

As of August 2005, the group had total sales of £1,770 million which was 6.8 percent above the previous year. Operating profits were 326 million pounds, up 10.1 percent against the previous year. "Our international operations are growing in strength and our brands are successful in all major regions. This year, we opened our first Wallis Asian store in the Philippines. Our brands operate in 26 countries worldwide covering Europe, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. Our latest openings are in Indonesia where five of the brands will be launched in July," he explains.

"Following our record year in 2004, Arcadia saw its biggest increase in sales and store numbers in 2005. This trend is continuing in 2006 and we look forward to another record year. None of this would have been possible without close collaboration with our franchise partners who do a great job in each local market," he explains.

Wallis Boutique is at the Shangri-la Plaza Mall.

Get a burger with a card tap

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

IMAGINE GOING TO THE MRT STATION without the snake lines, or paying for your groceries with just a tap of the card.

Mastercard, the leading global payments solutions, is expanding its reach in Asia-Pacific's huge retail markets with the launch of its PayPass technology recently in Malaysia. Aside from Malaysia, PayPass programs have been introduced in the Philippines, Thailand, Taiwan and Japan.

PayPass is the simpler way to pay bills and other purchases. It features an embedded computer chip and hidden antenna in a card or other formats such as a cell phone, a watch or a key fob.

Cardholders simply tap or touch their PayPass card on a specially equipped merchant terminal. The card then securely transmits payment details wirelessly, eliminating the need for a cardholder to hand over his card to the merchant.

With the PayPass technology, account details are communicated directly to the special terminals and are then processed through Mastercard's network.

Moments after consumers tap the terminal with their PayPass card, they receive payment confirmation. PayPass is built around globally interoperable standards and relies on ISO standards to transmit payment data via radio frequency.

So forget swiping, or inserting your card or handing it to a cashier.

With the PayPass, you can drive by fast-food restaurants without having to fumble for crumpled bills buried deep in your pocket or smear your fingers as you try to get those bills stuffed at the side of your car seat.

MasterCard PayPass is ideal for cash-only environments where speed of transaction is important such as fast-food restaurants drive-thrus, convenience stores, movie theatres, self-serve gas stations, mass transit, pharmacies, parking lots and toll roads. Mastercard also offers its quick payment service (QPS) program to merchants which waive signature requirements for purchases done with PayPass for example, under $25, further speeding customer's transactions.

PAYPASS at McDonald's in the US.

In Malaysia for instance, where Mastercard launched its OneSmart Mastercard Paypass in February, a number of merchants have accepted PayPass. These range from supermarkets to transportation providers, coffee operators and snack bars, apparel and footwear boutiques, and department stores.

In the Philippines, this also opens a number of possibilities.

"The object of the PayPass is more for small or retail cash pays like fast food, the cinemas, parking and bowling lanes, and even mass transit," Antonio T. Corro, director for operations at Mastercard International told the INQUIRER.

Corro said the Philippines' so-called "sachet" market is very innovative which makes it ready for computer chip credit technology.

In fact, second largest Bank of the Philippine Islands and Mastercard launched in January 2005 a PayPass pilot program for BPI's express credit card brand. The BPI credit PayPass card, for now, uses a magnetic strip.

Corro also said there are other banks that plan to roll out PayPass but he thought it prudent not to name them yet.

In the case of BPI, the PayPass pilot program was done initially with BPI employees and lured around 20 merchants within the Ayala malls.

In other countries, the regulatory environment has accelerated the migration to computer chip technology used in credit cards which has made it easier to adopt PayPass formats and conduct a mass rollout of the technology.

With the benefits offered by PayPass, will this jack up costs for the cardholder?

"When it comes to the pricing, it is really up to the issuing bank to dictate. Sometimes for convenience you have to pay a little extra but it is for the long-term and it will also depend on which formats it will run, whether on the cell phone, or a watch," Corro said.

"In the case of the Philippines, we have already BPI which has migrated to EMV. It is up to the member banks to decide whether to migrate to EMV or not. In other countries like Malaysia, their central bank mandates the migration to EMV," he stressed.

EMV is a standard for the interoperation of chip cards and point-of-sale terminals for authenticating credit and debit card payments.

The name EMV is short for "Europay MasterCard Visa," the three companies which originally cooperated to develop the standard.

Aside from credit card transactions, and popular retail venues like groceries and drive-thrus, the PayPass technology has also been introduced into the lucrative mass transport system.

PNB
ASSET MANAGEMENT SECTOR
We manage for best value.

PUBLIC AUCTION

MARCH 23, 2006 • THURSDAY • 2:00 PM • BUSINESS INN, Hall A No. 28 South Lacson St., Bacolod City 6100, Negros Occidental

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

BACOLOD

LOT 1 - Lot with Improvement
LA. 500 & 500 = 1,000 sqm.
FA: 554sqm.
Lot 282 & 274, 26Th & 27Th Sts., Cor. Calamba St., Brgy. 1
Minimum Bid Price : 3,364,000.00

LOT 2 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 250 sqm. FA: 48sqm.
Lot 12-A Blk 8 Phase V, Mt. Sinai St., Mountainview Subd., Brgy. Mandalagan
Minimum Bid Price : 618,300.00

LOT 3 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 240 sqm. FA: 100sqm.
Lot 13 Blk. 7 C. Jayme Avenue, Brgy. Mansilingan
Minimum Bid Price : 355,000.00

LOT 4 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 227sqm. FA: 92 sqm.
Lot 12 Blk 24 No. 24-12 Victoria St., Eroreco Subd., Mandalagan
Minimum Bid Price : 539,200.00

LOT 5 - Lot with Improvement
LA. 216 sqm. FA. 120sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 16 Margarita Ave., Eroreco Subd . Brgy.Mandalagan
Minimum Bid Price : 583,200.00

LOT 6 - Lot with Improvement
LA. 957sqm. FA: 400 sqm.
Lot 609-B San Juan St., Sum-Ag
Minimum Bid Price : 2,425,500.00

LOT 7 - Lot Only
LA 200sqm.
Lot 8 Blk. 1 Japitana Subd., Purok Sunrser, Brgy Mandalagan
Minimum Bid Price : 68,000.00

LOT 8 - Lot Only
LA 933 sqm.
Lot 11 Blk. 8 Sta. Clara Drive, Sta. Clara Subd.,Phase 1,Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 2,379,150.00

LOT 9 - Lot Only
LA: 933sqm.
Lot 13 Blk. 8 Sta. Clara Drive, Sta. Clara Subd., Phase 1, Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 2,379,150.00

LOT 10 - Lot Only
LA: 851sqm.
Lot 16 Blk. 8 San Sebastian Ave., Sta. Clara Subd., Phase 1, Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 1,914,750.00

LOT 11 - Lot Only
LA: 938sqm.
Lot 17 Blk. 8 San Sebastian Ave., Sta. Clara Subd.,Phase 1 Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 2,110,500.00

LOT 12 - Lot Only
LA: 2,479sqm.
Lot 4 Blk. 2 San Ignacio Ave, Sta. Clara Subd.,Phase1,Brgy.Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 5,577,750.00

LOT 13 - Lot Only
LA: 2,329sqm.
Lot 5 Blk. 2 Subd. Road, Sta. Clara Subd.,Phase1,Brgy.Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 5,240,250.00

LOT 14 - Lot Only
LA: 1,107sqm.
Lot 7 Blk. 39 Sta. Clara Drive, Sta. Clara Subd., Phase 1, Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 2,490,750.00

LOT 15 - Agriland
LA: 1,628sqm.
Lot 1-B Blk 1 Circumferential Road, Sta. Clara Subd., Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 4,884,000.00

LOT 16 - Lot with Makeshift Improvement
LA: 1,310 sqm.
Lot 610, San Roque St Sum-Ag
Minimum Bid Price . 589,500.00

LOT 17 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 8,394 sqm.
Lot 663 Int. Portion Of Purok Kangin, Brgy. Punta Taytay
Minimum Bid Price : 1,511,250.00

LOT 18 - Lot with Makeshift Improvement
LA: 225 sqm.
Lot 15-A, Blk 24, Purok Mahimayaon, Brgy. Bata
Minimum Bid Price : 160,000.00

LOT 19 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 360 + 360 = 720sqm.
FA: 1,334sqm.
Lot 406-B-26 & 29, 13Th St., Brgy. 4
Minimum Bid Price : 5,453,500.00

LOT 20 - Lot Only
LA: 510sqm.
Lot 10 Blk 1 Aljis Murcia Rd. & 101 St., Greenplains Subd., Singcang
Minimum Bid Price : 969,000.00

LOT 21 - Lot Only
LA: 510sqm.
Lot 11 Blk 1 Aljis Murcia Road & 101 St.,Greenplains Subd.,Singcang
Minimum Bid Price : 969,000.00

LOT 22 - Lot Only
LA: 510sqm.
Lot 26 Blk 1 Aljis Murcia Road & 101 St.,Greenplains Subd.,Singcang
Minimum Bid Price : 1,453,500.00

LOT 23 - Lot Only
LA: 510sqm.
Lot 27 Blk 1 Aljis Murcia Road & 101 St.,Greenplains Subd.,Singcang
Minimum Bid Price : 1,453,500.00

LOT 24 - Lot with fully depreciated improvement
LA: 1,065sqm.
Lot 31 Alunan Ave., Brgy 39 Bacolod City
Minimum Bid Price : 3,727,500.00

LOT 25 - Lot with fully depreciated improvement
LA: 1,062sqm.
Lot 43 Osmeña Ave., Brgy. 39 Bacolod City
Minimum Bid Price : 2,230,200.00

LOT 26 - Agriland
LA: 2,243sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 1 Circumferential Road, Sta. Clara Subd., Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 6,280,400.00

LOT 27 - Agriland
LA: 1,937sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 6 Circumferential Road, Sta. Clara Subd., Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 5,423,600.00

LOT 28 - Lot Only
LA: 240sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 26 San Pedro Ave., Sta. Clara Subd. (West), Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 524,400.00

LOT 29 - Lot Only
LA: 240sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 26 San Pedro Ave., Sta. Clara Subd. (West), Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 524,400.00

LOT 30 - Lot Only
LA: 240sqm.
Lot 8 Blk 26 San Pedro Ave., Sta Clara Subd. (West), Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 524,400.00

LOT 31 - Lot Only
LA: 240sqm.
Lot 10 Blk 26 San Pedro Ave., Sta. Clara Subd. (West), Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 524,400.00

LOT 32 - Lot Only
LA: 240sqm.
Lot 12 Blk 26 San Pedro Ave., Sta. Clara Subd. (West), Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 524,400.00

LOT 33 - Lot Only
LA. 240sqm.
Lot 14 Blk 26 San Pedro Ave., Sta. Clara Subd. (West), Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price . 524,400.00

LOT 34 - Lot Only
LA 240sqm.
Lot 16 Blk 26 San Pedro Ave., Sta. Clara Subd. (West), Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 524,400.00

LOT 35 - Lot Only
LA: 760sqm.
Lot 8 Blk 14 San Fernando Ave., Sta. Clara Subd. (West), Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 1,398,400.00

LOT 36 - Lot Only
LA: 760sqm.
Lot 14 Blk 14 San Fernando Ave., Sta. Clara Subd. (West), Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 1,398,400.00

LOT 37 - Lot Only
LA: 760sqm.
Lot 16 Blk 14 San Fernando Ave., Sta. Clara Subd. (West), Brgy. Banago
Minimum Bid Price : 1,398,400.00

LOT 38 - Lot Only
LA: 1,038sqm.
Lot 37 Blk 5 Amelia St., Villa Valderrama Subd., Brgy Bata
Minimum Bid Price : 1,670,900.00

LOT 39 - Lot Only
LA: 1,065sqm.
Lot 38 Blk 5 Paquita St., Villa Valderrama Subd., Brgy Bata
Minimum Bid Price : 1,715,000.00

LOT 40 - Lot Only
LA: 1,039sqm.
Lot 39 Blk 5 Amelia St., Villa Valderrama Subd., Brgy Bata
Minimum Bid Price : 1,673,000.00

LOT 41 - Lot Only
LA: 300+300= 600sqm.
Lot 8 & 10, Blk 8, Purok Sampaguita III, Brgy. Singcang-Airport
Minimum Bid Price : 144,000.00

BAGO

LOT 42 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 10,000 sqm. FA. 900 sqm.
Lot 14-A Bago-Ma-Ao Road, Brgy Lag-Asan
Minimum Bid Price : 4,326,500.00

LOT 43 - Lot Only
LA: 300 + 300 + 300 + 301 = 1,201sqm.
Lots 912-B-2-D, 912-B-2-E, 912-B-2-F & 912-B-2-G Sitio Para, Brgy. Taloc
Minimum Bid Price : 180,000.00

LOT 44 - VACANT LOT; AGRILAND
LA: 1,236sqm.
Lot 131 Sitio Limbo, Brgy. Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price : 36,750.00

LOT 45 - Lot Only
LA: 725sqm.
Lot 216-A--5-H, Purok Balinghoy
Minimum Bid Price : 203,000.00

LOT 46 - Lot Only
LA: 1,000sqm.
Lot 216-A--5-A, Purok Balinghoy
Minimum Bid Price : 320,000.00

BINALBAGAN

LOT 47 - VACANT LOT; AGRILAND
LA: 214,690sqm.
Lot 166 Sina-Ilan - Cabite, Biao
Minimum Bid Price : 644,250.00

CADIZ

LOT 48 - Lot Only
LA. 200, 200, 200 = 600 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk. 4; Lot 3 Blk. 4; Lot 4 Blk. 4 Purok Democracia, Brgy. Jerusalem
Minimum Bid Price . 76,500.00

LOT 49 - Agriland
LA: 251sqm.
Lot 13 Blk 28 Road Lot 27, Andrea Village, Zone II, Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price : 70,000.00

HINOBA-AN

LOT 50 - Lot Only
LA 2,279sqm.
3954-B-6-B Brgy. 2, Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 204,000.00

ILOG

LOT 51 - Lot with Makeshift Improvement
LA: 518sqm.
Lot 2258 Mabini St., Dancalan
Minimum Bid Price 349,650.00

LOT 52 - VACANT LOT; AGRILAND
LA 24,324+15,095+10,120= 49,539sqm.
Lot 670, 1341, 1334 Brgy. Manalad
Minimum Bid Price : 659,300.00

LOT 53 - VACANT LOT; AGRILAND
LA. 87,556sqm.
Lot 1742 Samberal, Brgy. Delicioso
Minimum Bid Price : 893,071.20

LOT 54 - VACANT LOT; AGRILAND
LA. 48,443sqm.
Lot 1446 Bagroy, Brgy Delicioso
Minimum Bid Price : 552,250.20

KABANKALAN

LOT 55 - Lot with Improvement
LA. 500sqm.
Lot 9 Blk. 7 Granada St., Brgy 3
Minimum Bid Price : 540,000.00

LOT 56 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 500sqm.
Lot 22 Blk. 7 Sola St., Brgy 3
Minimum Bid Price : 540,000.00

LOT 57 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 592sqm.
Lot 23 Blk. 7 Sola St., Brgy. 3
Minimum Bid Price : 639,360.00

LOT 58 - Lot with Improvement
LA. 999.50 sqm. FA: 164sqm.
Lot 154-A-2 Burgos St., Brgy. 6
Minimum Bid Price 964,000.00

LOT 59 - VACANT LOT; AGRILAND
LA. 95,015sqm.
Lot 2955 Candiacap-B.Brgy. Tapi
Minimum Bid Price . 688,500.00

LOT 60 - VACANT LOT; AGRILAND
LA: 157,482sqm.
Lot 2746 Plasanon 1,Brgy Salong
Minimum Bid Price 1,204,450.00

LA CASTELLANA

LOT 61 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 700sqm. FA: 159sqm.
Lot 635-A Purok Sampaloc, GomezSt
Minimum Bid Price 633,600.00

MANAPLA

LOT 62 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 410sqm. FA: 86sqm.
Lot 91-B-5-G-1 Int. Gallo St.
Minimum Bid Price : 396,800.00

LOT 63 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 973sqm. FA: 148sqm.
Lot No. 186-F-5 Bangga Tuling, Int. Lacson St.
Minimum Bid Price : 584,800.00

LOT 64 - Lot Only
LA: 335sqm.
Lot 91-B-5-E Interior Gallo St
Minimum Bid Price 142,800.00

SAGAY

LOT 65 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 300sqm. FA: 135sqm.
Lot 19-I-5-A A.E. Maranon St
Minimum Bid Price . 599,400.00

LOT 66 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 201sqm. FA: 70sqm.
Lot 1, Blk 3 Osterhols Sharmbeck Corner Mozart Sts., City Heights Subd
Minimum Bid Price : 279,900.00

LOT 67 - Lot with Improvement
LA 240sqm. FA 100sqm.
Lot 10, Blk 46 Tupaz St., Extension, Poblacion 1
Minimum Bid Price 443,200.00

LOT 68 - Lot with Improvement
LA 240sqm. FA. 80sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 43 Tupaz St., Aguilar Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 486,400.00

LOT 69 - Agriland
LA: 500sqm.
Lot 14 Purok Lerio, Brgy. Vito
Minimum Bid Price 31,500.00

LOT 70 - Agriland
LA: 500sqm.
Lot 9 Purok Lerio, Brgy. Vito
Minimum Bid Price 31,500.00

SAN CARLOS

LOT 71 - VACANT LOT, AGRILAND
LA: 106,501sqm.
Lot 650, 639 Sitio Nagutman, Brgy. Prosperidad
Minimum Bid Price 96,750.00

SILAY

LOT 72 - Lot Only
LA: 3,211sqm.
Lot 10-F Banana St., Brgy V
Minimum Bid Price : 1,460,900.00

LOT 73 - Lot Only
LA: 3,210sqm.
Lot 10-E Banana St., Brgy. V
Minimum Bid Price : 1,460,900.00

LOT 74 - Lot Only
LA 4,024sqm.
Lot 10-G Banana St., Brgy. V
Minimum Bid Price : 1,831,200.00

LOT 75 - Lot Only
LA: 4,023sqm.
Lot 10-H Banana St., Brgy. V
Minimum Bid Price 1,830,500.00

TALISAY

LOT 76 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 180sqm. FA. 42sqm.
Lot 11 Blk 33 Zone 12-A Carmela Valley Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 555,300.00

LOT 77 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 180sqm. FA: 151sqm.
Lot 9 Blk 6 Sta Lucia St., Carmela Valley Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 878,250.00

LOT 78 - Lot Only (Improvement not worth appraising)
LA: 180sqm.
Lot 13 Blk 33 Zone 12-A Carmela Valley Subd
Minimum Bid Price 243,000.00

TOBOSO

LOT 79 - Lot Only
LA: 297sqm.
Lot 6 Blk. 4 Road Lot 2 Dumdum Subd.
Minimum Bid Price., 62,900.00

LOT 80 - VACANT LOT; AGRILAND
LA: 10,275sqm.
Lot 1819 Sitio San Roque, Brgy. Salamanca
Minimum Bid Price : 42,750.00

LOT 81 - Lot Only
LA: 329sqm.
Lot 2, Blk 6, Dumdum Subd., Brgy. Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 52,800.00

VALLADOLID

LOT 82 - Lot with Makeshift Improvement
LA: 108,725sqm.
Lot 1358-G-2-F & 1358-G-2-A Brgy. Palaka
Minimum Bid Price 1,772,000.00

VICTORIAS

LOT 83 - Lot with Improvement
LA 300sqm. FA: 91sqm.
Lot 7 Blk 10 Urdaneta St., Salvacion Subd.
Minimum Bid Price : 338,400.00

LOT 84 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 285sqm. FA: 155sqm.
Lot 12 Blk 18 Cor. Mabolo-Doña Aurora Sts. Brgy. Villamonte, Bacolod City
Minimum Bid Price : 828,000.00

LOT 85 - Lot with Improvement
LA: 1,448sqm. FA: 620sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 32 # 553 Camagong St., Brgy. Villamonte, Bacolod City
Minimum Bid Price 4,500,000.00

- GUARANTEED FINANCING -FIXED INTEREST UP TO 10YRS
- 10% DOWN PAYMENT FOR LOTS
- 25% DOWN PAYMENT FOR DEVELOPED PROPERTIES
- DEPOSIT PHP 25,000.00 CASH, MANAGER'S CHECK (NO DEPOSIT NO PARTICIPATION)
- FOR INSTALLMENT BUYERS PLS. BRING PROOF OF INCOME (ITR, CERT. OF EMPLOYMENT, BANK STATEMENT, ETC.)

Please Call AMG-PNB Inquiry Desk:
TEL NOs: (02) 832-2562 | (02) 526-3131
LOCALS: (JOEY) 2919 | 0921-7112238 | (VON) 7212 | (JR) 4538 |
(RAYMOND) 4539 | 0917-8562144
(FLAVIE) (034) 433-0991 | (GRACE) (034) 434-8007

PNB phonebanking 573-8888
www.pnb.com.ph

PROPERTIES FOR SALE ARE ON AN "AS IS WHERE IS" BASIS. PROPERTIES AND PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. PLEASE CONFIRM ATTENDANCE TO ENSURE SEATS AND PARKING.

'If you ...

From page B1

fish in the public market in Cagayan de Oro.

His father was a fisherman.

The fifth of seven children knew then that if he were to get ahead in life, he had to help himself.

Thus, he applied himself to his studies and was a scholar from grade school to college, which was just as well as his parents would not have been able to put him through school.

Tagud got his bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro City. He graduated magna cum laude and class valedictorian.

He went to Manila after graduation and had his first taste of the corporate world at the Private Development Corporation of the Philippines, where he was hired project and team leader tasked to review and evaluate shipping and tourism projects.

Tagud then moved to the Ayala group in 1976 after getting his Master in Business Administration from the Ateneo de Manila University.

He would stay with them for 20 years in various capacities, from vice president to the Bank of the Philippine Islands to assistant vice president of Ayala Land Inc. and general manager/director of Cebu Holdings Inc.

He credits the Ayala group for showing him the ropes in the corporate world, which was invaluable in handling his subsequent posts at Nation Broadcasting Corp., C&P Homes Inc. and Nenaco, which he considers his payback to society.

"Some of us have to be there to save jobs in danger of being lost," he says.

The rich ...

From page B1

Lacson, whose experience comes largely from consumer goods—first with Unilever, then with San Miguel Corp., before joining ALI, admits the change from retail to real estate was "very difficult."

But this difficulty also became her driving force to do well.

"What made me fall in love with real estate was the impact it makes on people's lives," she says.

She explains that unlike a sachet of shampoo or a bottle of beer that a buyer can just throw away if he does not like it, one cannot just dump a house.

This, Lacson says, is what challenged her in real estate—to ensure that ALI builds homes that people will be happy to live in.

She admits that "we can't always build perfect things" but by having only a small number of accredited contractors, the firm is able to do better quality control.

Suburban Living in the City

You enjoy the good life. You engage in businesses, attend conferences, fire up boardrooms, and cultivate networks. You succeed, building a name and a nest egg you truly deserve to enjoy. Yet the demands of keeping up with such a lifestyle often erodes life's important pleasures: of recreation, of leisure, of time with loved ones. Of personal space, pampering and rejuvenation. You waste hours on traffic, come home late to a sleeping family, and endanger your health with stress and polluted surroundings. Some people work hard for the good life, but rarely enjoy it.

Serendra strives to put an end to this compromise. Developed by Ayala Land Premier and Community Innovations, it is a distinctive, sprawling garden residential condominium that eliminates the need to choose between what you want and what's convenient. It gives you both—merging urban expediency with the graces of vast and airy suburbia. With Serendra, Ayala Land offers a truly suburban setting at the heart of Bonifacio Global City, one of today's busiest and fastest growing hubs.

Anticipated to be the Philippine's next center of commerce, culture and trade, Bonifacio Global City's new masterplan will create a dynamic environment that never sleeps. And with Serendra integrated thoughtfully into Bonifacio Global City's overall vision of pedestrian-friendly transport, open spaces and civic centers, you will be in the most prime spot to enjoy all these conveniences at hand. Enjoy your own family space in Serendra while still having top-notch hospitals, schools, business centers, and retail establishments nearby when needed.

Serendra is also easily accessible to top business districts such as Makati and Ortigas CBD, thus allowing you to do business close to home. Now, you can spend hours previously wasted on traffic with your family. You can work all day, drive home in time for dinner, play with your kids, and discuss the day's events with your spouse. And you can do it every day. No more compromise between working for the good life and actually enjoying it—at Serendra, you can do both.

(continued on page 4)

Sprawling gardens. Spacious lawns. Lush hedges. Not just in token amounts, mind you, but in lavish proportions. That's what you'll find at Serendra— a low-density residential area in the prestigious Bonifacio Global City. A singular achievement in modern real estate development, Serendra's freshness is found not merely in its greenery, but in every nook and cranny of its meticulously masterplanned property.

Serendra

A Luxury of Space at One Serendra

You live the good life. You enjoy the finer things—a comfortable ride home in your luxury sedan, the finest wines to go with your gourmet meal, the softest sheets to ensure a good night's sleep. Above all, what matters is that you know the best things in life are not necessarily free—investment also comes in the form of spending a little bit more to enjoy comforts and conveniences that will go a long way in pampering your body and your mind.

There is a place that is perfect to call your home—Ayala Land Premier's One Serendra, the lowest-density sprawling garden residential development within the whole Bonifacio Global City and perhaps even in the whole local real-estate market. It provides just the ideal luxury of space for discerning individuals or families who place a premium on ease, relaxation, contentment and well-being.

Unit sizes at One Serendra are meant for the assurance of privacy and security, and freedom of living. Whether in a one-, two-, or three-bedroom abode, and with unit sizes as luxuriously spacious as up to 300 square meters, you will feel an effective escape from the city, buffered even more by the greenery that surrounds you in the form of landscapes, themed gardens and open spaces. After a day at work or a tiring travel abroad, your home serves as a soothing retreat and sanctuary for your soul. Find your own personal space within the vast greenery and serene surroundings.

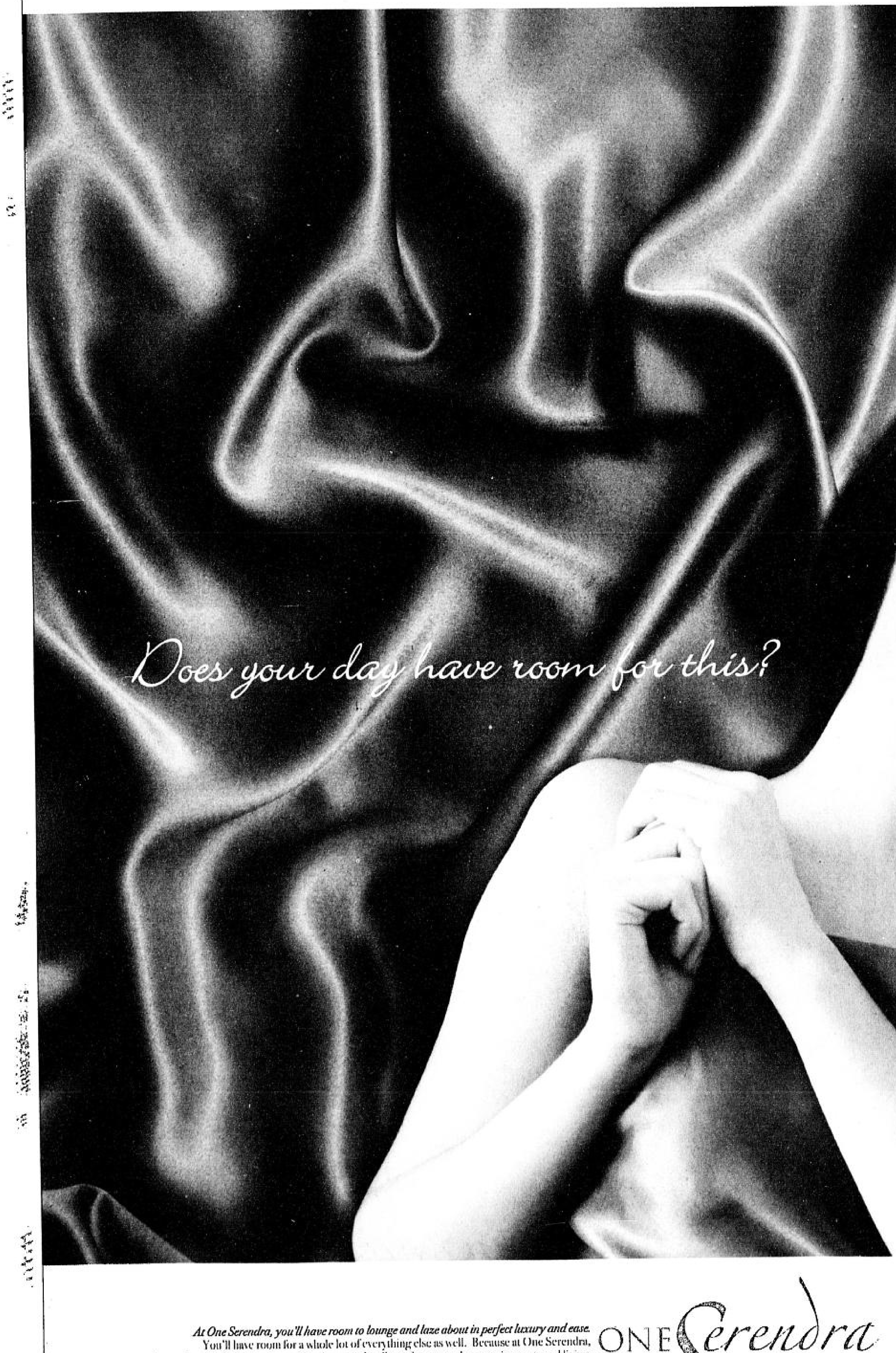
It will not be difficult to feel relaxed with the fine appointments of One Serendra units. Discriminating tastes will appreciate such details as narra parquet flooring and natural stone kitchen countertops. Well-seasoned travelers who enjoy top-notch hotel services can expect little but meaningful conveniences such as hot tap water or an audio-video guest annunciator. There are even walk-in closets in select units to provide the ultimate indulgence in your treasured personal effects. Special units with wraparound views and numerous open balconies are available for those yearning for even greater space to build their lives in.

Expect no electrical interruptions with 100 percent power backup. This and other meticulous property management tasks are taken care of by the renowned Ayala Property Management Corporation, preserving the value of your investment and even adding more value to your home.

At One Serendra, you can live your life at your own relaxed pace. Top amenities are equally spacious, efficient and low density, assuring you of opportunities to condition your mind along with your body. A spa is exclusively at your disposal for even more relaxing moments. Paths that wind along the landscape environment and pedestrian walkways enable you to stop and smell the flowers, quite literally and figuratively.

Live the life you have always envisioned at One Serendra—a place where you and your family can enjoy spaciousness both within nature and within your very home. A life dictated by your own desires and personal freedom. A life of unparalleled serenity and convenience for those in the know.

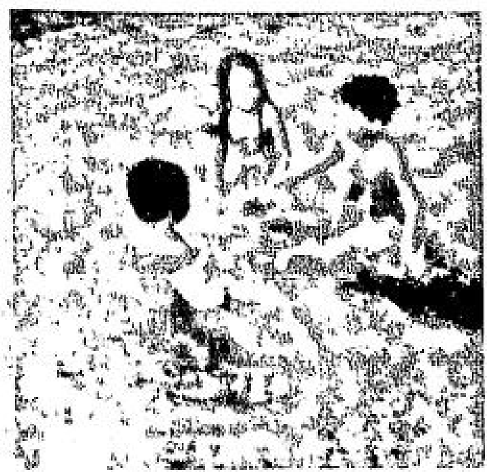
AyalaLand PREMIER



At One Serendra, you'll have room to lounge and laze about in perfect luxury and ease.
You'll have room for a whole lot of everything else as well. Because at One Serendra, you enjoy not just the 65% greenery offered every other Serendra owner, but appointments and living space unparalleled in the whole Bonifacio Global City. Ayala Land Premier's One Serendra has generously spaced units that give you and your family the kind of room normally only found in far-flung suburban developments. Do try to squeeze in a visit to us today. We've more than enough room to accommodate you.

ONE Serendra

Hotline 889-0557 to 60 E-mail: oneserendra@ayalaland.com Web [illegible] HLURB Nos. [illegible]



Vibrant Community Living at Two Serendra

For the urban professional, shopping for a home is often tainted with compromise. The demands of a budding career and a thriving social life create divergent needs few residential choices can adequately satisfy. The city, with its much coveted accessibility, contains high levels of noise and pollution most would rather do without. And farther flung areas, though less stressful to the soul, can cut off the very best parts of a young and progressive lifestyle.

Fortunately, Community Innovations' Two Serendra promises efficient yet inventive use of space, fostering a fast-paced community culture that's appealing to most of today's young, urban achievers. At Two Serendra, accessibility, creativity and affordability merge seamlessly, opening up opportunities for interaction within and beyond the confines of the city.

Two Serendra offers fair-sized units ranging from 36 to 120 square meters. Clients can choose among tastefully designed studios, one-, two- or 3-bedroom homes. Whatever they choose, they still enjoy a piece of impressive greenery. After a hard day at work, you can go to the gym, swim in the pool, or make use of the jogging paths bordered by breathtaking landscape.

Two Serendra allows you to live the active dynamic life you enjoy. Shop at the hippest of stores. Have coffee with friends. Get your hair done at a salon. Sample some of the world's best cuisines. For a change of scenery, drive over to any of Makati and The Fort's numerous bars and restaurants for a night out. And once you're done, home is just minutes away.

At Two Serendra, you can shift lifestyles as often as you want. Its units' standard features and finishes speak of only the highest quality and value for money. Complete kitchen systems installed in all of the units will enable you to cook up a fabulous spread for your family and friends. Provisions for convenient home living are also available, from water heating systems to washer and dryer connections to ensure that you are able to focus your energies on building the kind of successful and fulfilling life you want.

Whatever your mood or personality is at the moment, Two Serendra will work for you. From festive get-togethers with friends to precious quality time with yourself, from business meetings to family days, Serendra has just the right place in which you and people you care about can gather. A community with multiple facets, it's designed to accommodate even the most demanding of achievers—people who work and play hard, and want the best they can get from either endeavor.

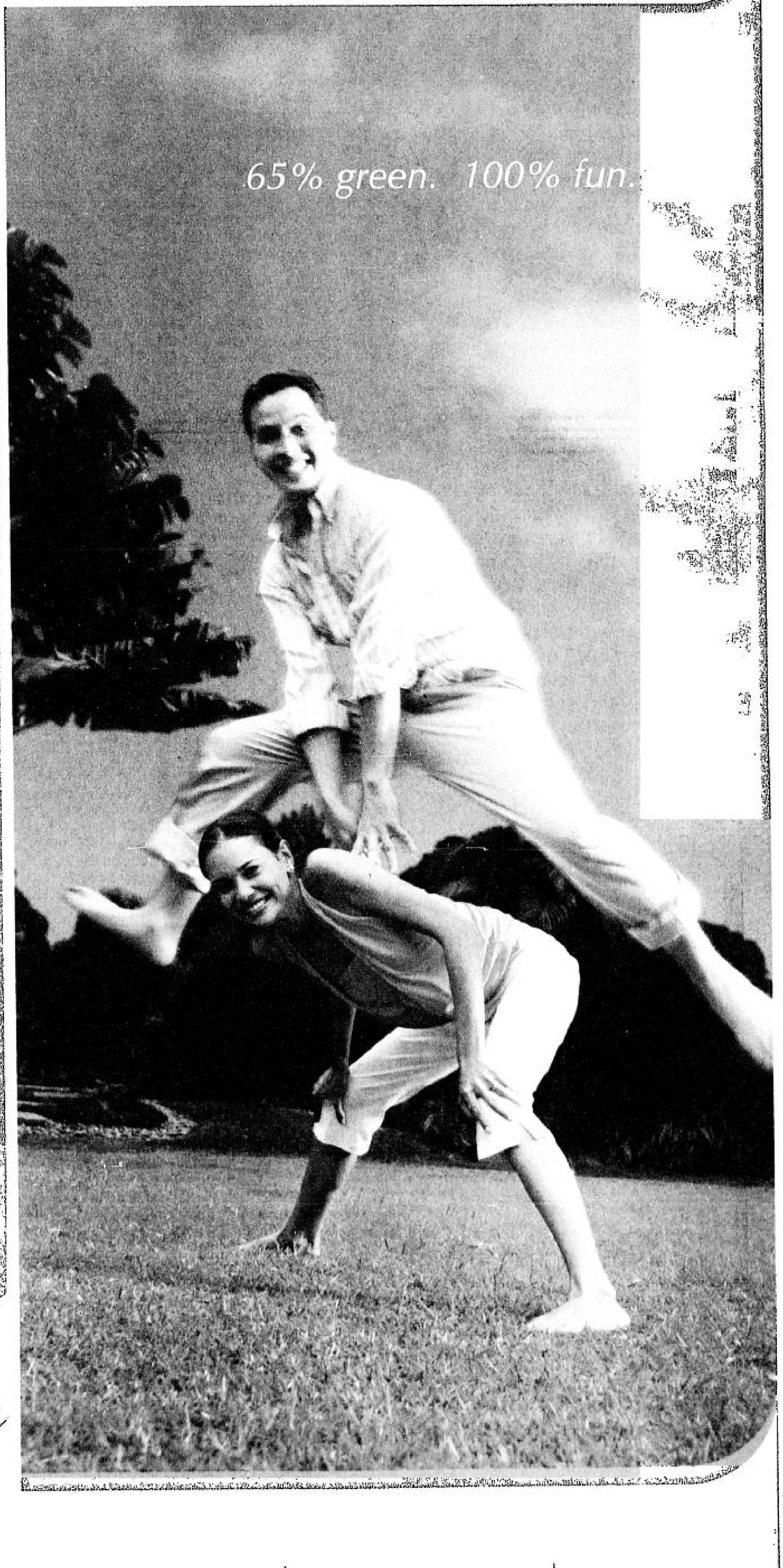
Community Innovations
Live the life you deserve
an AyalaLand company

Suburban condo living in Bonifacio Global City

Lush gardens, [illegible] walkway and pocket parks [illegible] [illegible] spaces [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Two Serendra [illegible]

Conveniently located in the Bonifacio Global City, Two Serendra appeal to single [illegible], young couples and families. Minutes away [illegible] schools and shopping centers. [illegible] friends [illegible] explore [illegible] shops [illegible] piazza [illegible] designed [illegible] complete [illegible] suburban living [illegible] Two Serendra landscape.

[illegible] Two Serendra [illegible]


65% green. 100% fun.

Two Serendra

HLURB License to Sell Nos. 10412 and 14587

www.communityinnovations.com.ph | Call: (632) 888-0000 | cii-sales@ayalaland.com.ph

(From page 1)

A unique sight to behold

Spanning all of 12 hectares, Serendra offers you living spaces awash with quality of life. A feast for the eyes, it combines a European-inspired master plan with distinctive Filipino architecture, seamlessly merging two of the world's best and most creative designs. In Serendra, low, mid-rise and taller sections patterned after the famed "Bahay na Bato" architecture are set amidst approximately seven and a half hectares of greenery—wide open spaces, gardens, and other conveniences designed to please both the eye and the spirit. At Serendra, you can stroll along ample areas with lush landscaping, enjoying a serene urban sanctuary in the safety of a controlled environment.

Amenities are ample and truly enjoyable, giving unique experiences of vigor or relaxation, whichever you choose. You can swim, go to the gym, jog, or play badminton, with the facilities all within easy reach. Have peace of mind leaving the children at fun and well-secured play areas.

With the most modern of amenities set amidst multiple hectares of lush greenery, Serendra offers the best of many worlds, easily transforming from tranquil suburbia to a busy modern lifestyle hub and back again. This is especially true at The Piazza at Serendra, a multidimensional commercial area offering a score of products and services in small, quaint shops, reminiscent of European neighborhood stores where everyone and everybody is welcome. The shopping experience at The Piazza will be multicultural and unique, authentically sourced from destinations spanning the globe, yet conveniently set in the middle of the development, only a few steps away from home—a truly unique proposition found nowhere else.

Suburban living in the city. This is Serendra. Indeed, the perfect place in which to enjoy the life you and your family truly deserve.

The Rising Vision of Serendra

Merely two years since it broke ground and its foundations had been laid, Serendra, the Philippines' first sprawling residential garden condominium development has firmly taken shape. Indeed, Ayala Land Premier and Community Innovations have gained considerable headway in their efforts to complete the project in time for its initial scheduled turnover in 2007.

Serendra merges the peace and privacy of suburbia with all the conveniences of the city. It is set amid hectares of lush greenery just a stone's throw away from several of the country's centers for culture and trade. Ayala Land's latest development offers a versatile lifestyle for its residents—whether it be tranquil personal space or dynamic and vibrant living.

One Serendra

With its bigger-sized units, One Serendra holds the distinction of being the lowest-density residential development within the Bonifacio Global City. For discerning homeowners, One Serendra offers an enviable sense of exclusivity, comfort, security and privacy. It has unique, masterplanned, themed gardens such as an orchidarium, an orchard, an herb garden, and Zen-inspired landscaping, along with several country club-like amenities such as an exclusive spa. One Serendra truly provides its residents the ideal setting for a gracious lifestyle where one can live at their own preferred pace.

The good news is that prospective One Serendra residents need not wait long. One Serendra held its ceremonial top-off last January 17 at the Serendra construction site in Bonifacio Global City. The top-off celebrated the completion of One Serendra Section A's structural and concrete works, signaling the halfway completion of the project.

During the event, Ayala Land's Assistant Vice President for Ayala Land Premier Residential Buildings Kate Ilagan expressed that she considers the top-off a genuine milestone, as it assures ALP clients that they will be able to meet their turnover deadline. "It's very important for us to deliver what we promised our buyers, both in terms of schedule and quality. Prompt delivery is one of the legacies of Ayala Land," she said.

Whether in a one-, two-, or three-bedroom unit, with sprawling floor areas of up to 300 square meters, One Serendra residents will experience stress-free relief from the hustle and bustle of the metropolis with such a luxury of space. The greenery that surrounds them in the form of landscapes, themed gardens and wide open spaces provides an ambience of serenity and calm, together with unit finishes and features unmatched in luxury and detail. Indeed, One Serendra offers one of the most innovative concepts in premier living, set amid a similarly pioneering architectural design of medium-rise buildings amidst a lush garden setting. "Serendra uses a trend-setting approach to condominium design," enthuses architect Ted Narciso, Partner-in-Charge of Design. "It truly aims to give its residents the highest value in suburban living in the city."

Two Serendra

Two Serendra, Community Innovations' impressive community of stylish, versatile abodes for today's urban achievers, also held its top-off last January 31 at the construction site in Bonifacio Global City. Company representatives were on hand to participate in simple ceremonies signaling the halfway completion of Two Serendra. Unit owners are now a step closer to realizing a truly relaxing and recharging suburban lifestyle that compliments active and upwardly mobile values, with its functional and tastefully designed units.

According to Dan Abando, head of Two Serendra's Technical Services Group, topping-off is a major accomplishment as far as any construction development is concerned, as it pronounces structural completion with the last structural member being put into place. "Topping-off declares, particularly to our clients, that we are moving to the final stages of the project and we are surely getting to the turnover period," he said. "It also adds excitement to our clients that very soon they will be living in their new homes and enjoying everything that we have promised them."

For the urban professional, home would be a place where the many contrasting yet equally important aspects of life can successfully coexist, with ample facilities and amenities for sports and recreation. Two Serendra is one such place, as it fosters a sufficiently individual yet interactive community culture appealing to most of today's urbanites. At Two Serendra, accessibility, creativity and value for money merge seamlessly, opening up opportunities for interaction within and beyond the confines of the city. Indeed, tastefully designed studios, one-, two- or 3-bedroom homes ranging from 36 to 120 square meters give residents ample room to live and grow.

Community Innovations (CI) officials and Two Serendra project team partners signify the topoff of the development. From left to right: principal architect Jojo Tolentino of RMJM Philippines, CI project architect Edwin Yabut, CI head of technical services group Dan Abando, Ayala Land vice president and Makati Development Corp. president Emilio Tumbocon, CI president Bobby Dy, CI sales group head Efren Tan, CI project development manager Iris Josef, CI project development group head Jonathan Umali, and RMJM Philippines director Ben Villarama.

Abando remarked that they will continue with construction using the same amount of diligence and enthusiasm it took to reach this milestone. "Although we have our drawings and specifications set, we are still looking into areas where we can improve by working beyond our limits," he said. Indeed, continuous lifestyle innovation is on track at Two Serendra.

The Piazza at Serendra

The development of The Piazza at Serendra, an international retail haven at the heart of Serendra, is likewise proceeding as planned. According to CJ Jesena, senior division manager of Ayala Malls in charge of leasing at The Piazza, Ayala Malls has already begun turning over all units of The Piazza to its merchants last January 31. "We are now turning over to our confirmed merchants, some of whom have already started drawing up construction plans for our evaluation and approval," he said. "At present, we are on track to partially open July 2006."

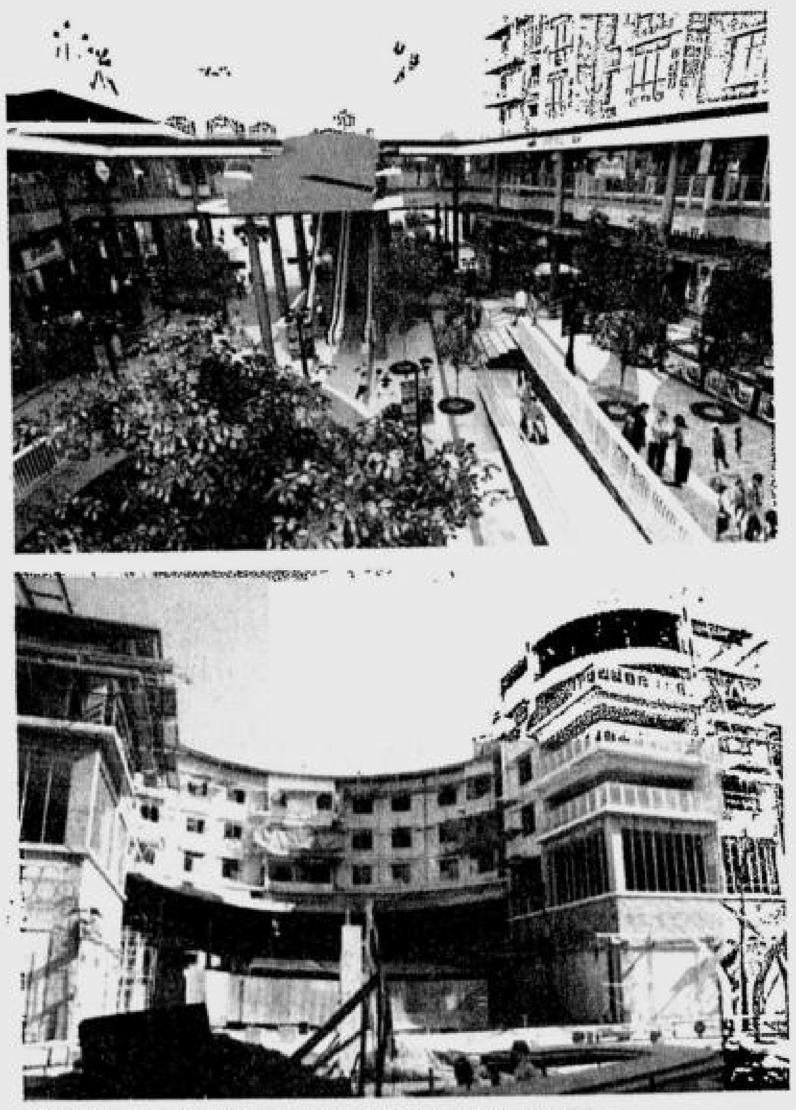
One Serendra Section A

Ayala Land officials and One Serendra technical project team partners perform a ceremonial topping off on the 10th floor of the sprawling, low to midrise condominium development's first section. From left to right: architect Ted Narciso of GF & Partners, architect Mae Cruz of L. V. Locsin Partners, Design Coordinates Inc. president Oscar Salvacion, EEI Corp. president Roberto Castillo, Ayala Land Premier Residential Buildings senior vice president Angie Lacson and assistant vice president Kate Ilagan, Ayala Land vice president Emilio Tumbocan, Ayala Land president Jim Ayala, and Ayala Land assistant vice president Raul Bautista.

A retail promenade awash with a fusion of cultures highlighting food, specialty retail and service establishments in a two-level indoor-outdoor environment, The Piazza at Serendra aims to give Serendra residents and the discerning public a taste of a genuine multicultural lifestyle. It shall house approximately 85 different merchants who will design their own storefronts reflecting unique and diverse design tastes—an international esplanade that will showcase the best of Filipino, Asian, European, and Continental culture and cuisine. Quaint shops and restos whose keepers and chefs are like neighbors and friends—that is the unique experience The Piazza will bring in the local shopping scene. A ground level that will feature small specialty and deli shops, and anchor spaces for music, health, beauty, and published products; and second floor shops that will offer unique home finds and exotic curios—arts and crafts, antiques, and Soho-type home furniture and accessories. Services and amenities such as beauty and health services, banks, schools and travel agencies will also be available.

With the initial list of merchants now taking shape, The Piazza at Serendra is truly something to look forward to. For a world of flavors, there will be an exciting new Filipino dining concept from the Larry J. Group of Restaurants, Middle Eastern cuisine concepts by Hossein's Persian Kebab, an Italian deli and wine bar by Café Puccini, hearty Spanish meals from the kitchen of the Gaudi group, Portico by the Chateau 1771 group, and exquisite desserts by Mary Grace Ensaymada and Nana Meng's chocolate.

Art items, knickknacks and whatnots—an Indian gift item store from Gifts of Maharani, a Murano glass sculpture and gift item shop, and Latin American gifts from Casa Amarilla. Local followers of renowned Filipino exporter Padua Designs will also finally be able to bring home this design house's distinctive pieces.



The Piazza at Serendra: construction in progress (bottom) and the envisioned international esplanade when completed (top)

All these create an incomparable environment with Serendra's sprawling gardens, tree-lined walkways, wading pools, and charming residential units that are by themselves multi-cultural. The central common area of The Piazza at Serendra will showcase elegant water features and public art pieces, as well as lush landscaping jutting out from the basement parking levels.

The Piazza at Serendra, together with the fast-rising residential buildings and lush landscaping already taking shape, assures that the vision of Serendra is truly not too far away.

Filipino-owned call center operates for the poor

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—BUSINESS CIRCLES have been talking about them for months now. But few took serious note of talks that a group of retired bankers and accountants has set up a call center to finance philanthropic work in the poorest communities of this city.

Nam-ay Ti Umili Inc. (NTU), a foundation that provides business consultancy and micro-finance support for Baguio's urban poor, formed a non-stock, non-profit call center inside the Baguio City Economic Zone on Oct. 3, 2005 for under P2 million.

NTU is a two-year old foundation, which began as a group of computer-savvy business experts before it diversified into a P100,000 lending project that caters to street vendors and residents here.

NTU operates its 50-member call center as an outbound facility, which sells credit lines or American products overseas on behalf of foreign clients so it can generate P6 million each month to fund social projects.

Lilia de Lima, director-general of the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (Peza), has proclaimed the NTU call center as the only non-profit operation that has so far been allowed inside any government-administered economic zone in the country.

The fledgling call center trade also classifies NTU as the country's first all-Filipino venture in this industry, said Rodie Abejero, NTU operations manager.

VT
ME
NH
MA
RI
CT
NJ
DE
MD
NY
PA
WI
MI
IL
IN
OH
WV
VA
KY
NC
TN
SC
GA
AL
CO
KS
MO
OK
AR
NM
LA

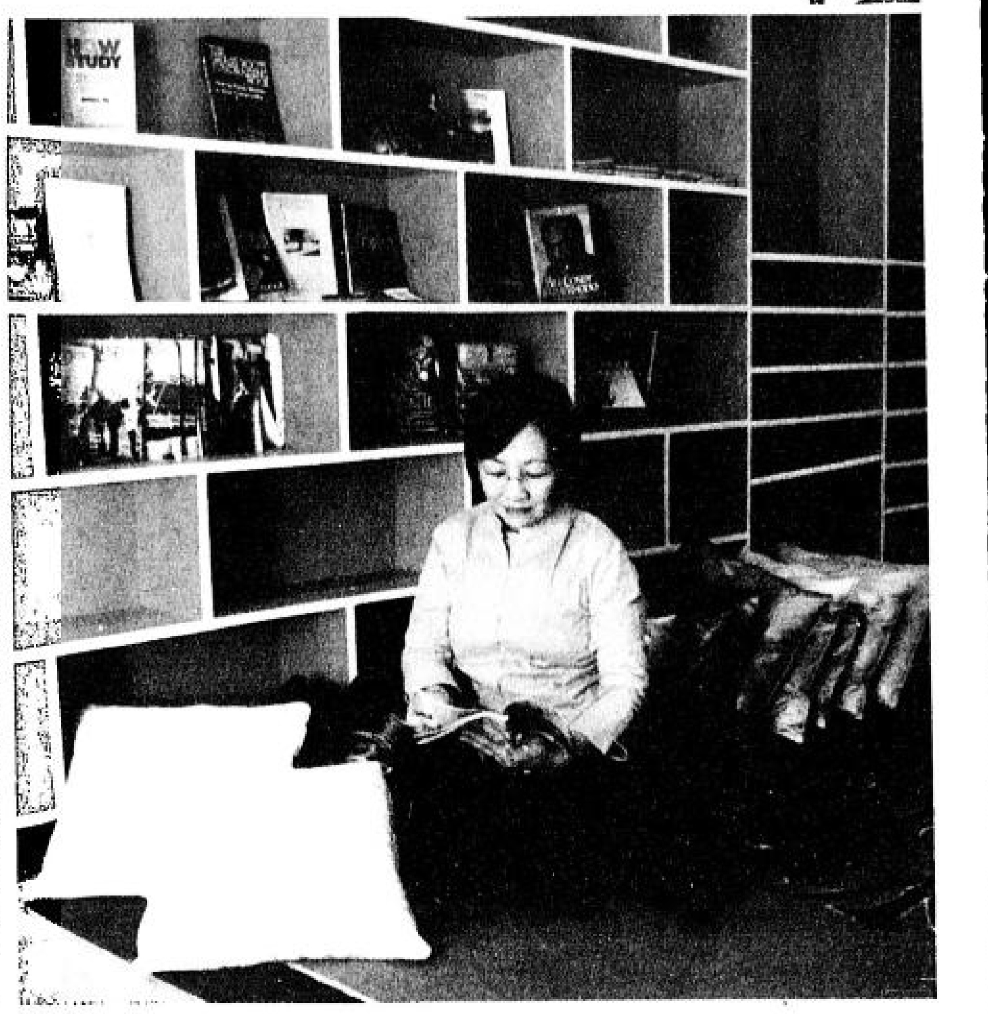
SAINTS OF EDSA. These are the foundations of an unusual call center that was formed to literally feed Baguio's poor. Nam-ay Ti Umili Inc. (it stands for community wellbeing) has been operating for two years as a microlending facility. Late last year, NTU decided to operate the first all-Filipino call center to finance their social projects. In photo are: (from left) Rika Cariño, call center administrator; Teresita Sagucio, NTU trustee; Erlinda Alvaro, NTU vice president; Rodie Abejero, call center operations manager; and the other trustee, Laurence Sagucio.

Yet at first, even Peza could not immediately swallow NTU's profit-for-social-upliftment concept, says Erlinda Alvaro, NTU vice president and a retired manager of the Bank of Philippine Islands' Baguio branch.

She says NTU president Rafael Orpilla and NTU lawyer Arleen Rodelas-Orpilla had to challenge Peza to treat them as an "out-of-the box test case" before the foundation could sign up as the latest firm to locate to the Baguio zone.

Laurence Sagucio, one of NTU's trustees and a former official of PCIBank, says a general cynicism surrounding NTU's goals appeared influenced by the government's masked profiteering activities.

The direction taken by their five-month-old call center operation also wobbled slightly off course when some clients from the United States began pulling out on Feb. 24, the day President Macapagal-Arroyo declared a state of national emergency, Abejero says.



RELAXING FACTORY. The Nam-ay call center is outfitted with modern libraries like this one with Nam-ay trustee Teresia Sagucio, a former banker, to help relax workers. Its design is harmonious with the firm's policy of social consciousness in business.

VINCENT CABREZA

If NTU's clients, like street vendors, even knew how emergency rule had almost cost them their "business life support," they would immediately blame Ms Arroyo, says Teresita Sagucio, NTU treasurer and a former BPI official.

But she says blaming the government was the nature of poor Filipinos outside Metro Manila that the NTU wants to change.

"Nam-ay ti Umili" is the Ilocano translation of the phrase "community welfare" and it defines the outlook of this business venture.

Before they met up with NTU, the US-based Orpillas went to Baguio to find people begging for loans to cope with the slide in the national economy, Alvaro says.

Taking their cue from their findings, the Orpilla couple returned to the US to handle NTU's marketing overseas.

At about the same period, NTU's original business consultancy discovered a better way of doing business when it took on an auditing assignment for some Baguio-based lending institutions.

Alvaro says a credit check of the clients serviced by these lending firms revealed to them the kind of poverty Baguio residents would never encounter.

"For former bankers who used to deal exclusively with corporate accounts … we were suddenly going to the Irisan dumpsite. We saw the houses there have no floors. We saw beds set alongside kitchens that were an inch high in water … We realized that street vendors who lose a day's worth of [earnings] when caught by police will literally starve for the day [gauging by the condition of their homes]," she says.

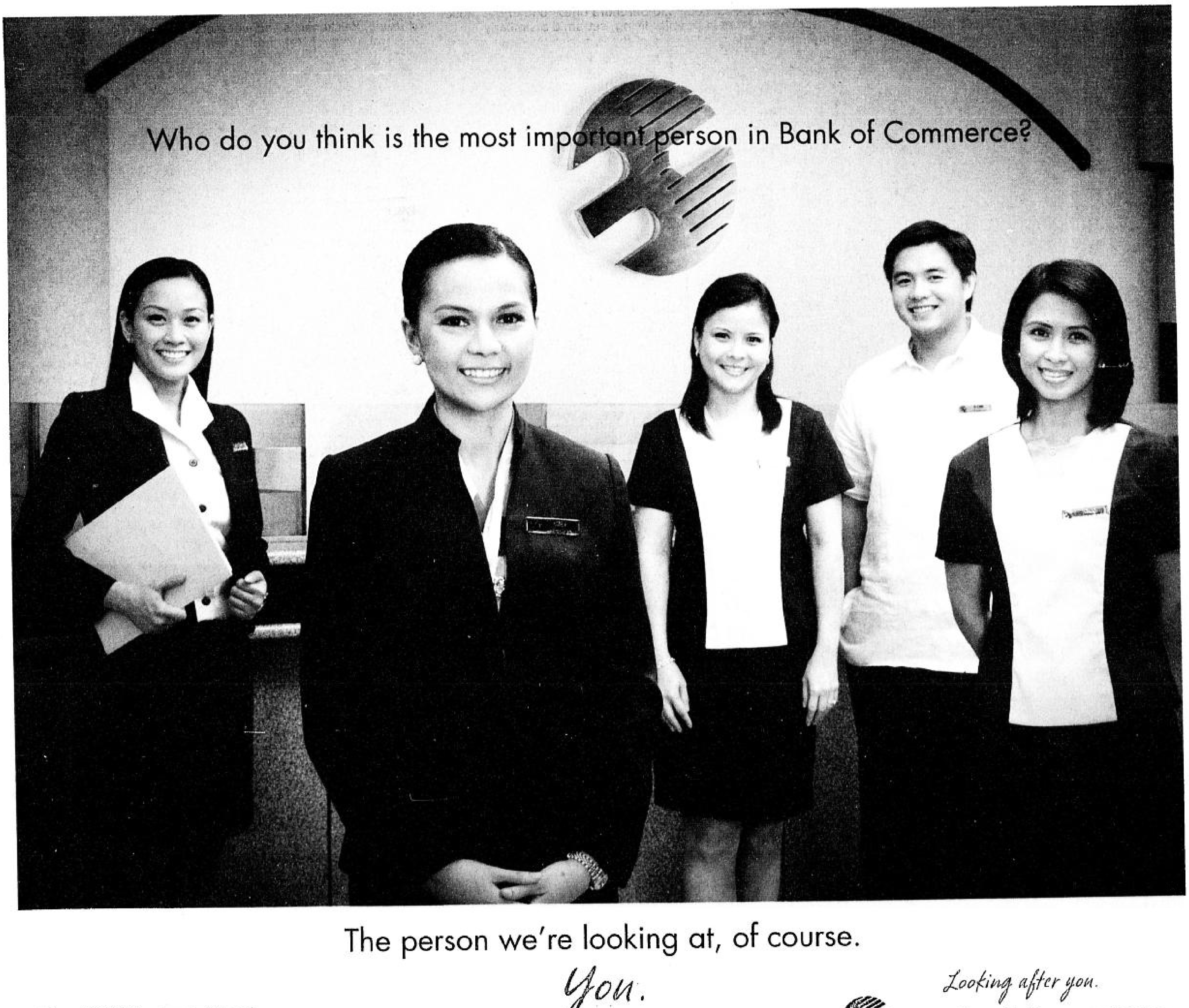
Alvaro says their audit assignment was supposed to uncover irregularity in the lending firms' operations, "but it also enlightened" NTU about what the poor really need.

Traders sometimes diverted borrowed money to pay for tuition, buy medicine or add to savings intended for the overseas employment of a relative, Alvaro says, "although 90 percent of the borrowers ultimately complete their payments without a hitch."

These revelations guide NTU's call center mission, says Rika Cariño, the call center administrator.

All employees sign contracts that oblige them to devote a portion of their time to community service, and much of the NTU's training manuals supply management instructions that would help them transcend their career goals by focusing on "what they can do beyond their obligations to their respective families," she says.

It's a manual for a new business principle that the NTU plans to advocate in the future.


Who do you think is the most important person in Bank of Commerce?

The person we're looking at, of course.
You.

Call us at 812-0000 for all your banking needs.
Member PDIC. Deposits insured up to P250,000 per depositor.

Looking after you.
Bank of Commerce
www.bankcom.com.ph

SPECTATORS, mostly from the high echelons of the society and the diplomatic community, watch the Enrique Zobel Memorial Polo Cup held at the Manila Polo Club in Forbes Park, Makati.

A horse game that's not for everyone

Text and photos by Ernie Sarmiento

IT IS OFTEN CALLED THE "SPORT OF KINGS". British and Spanish royalties play the game. The exact origin of polo, the oldest team sport, is unknown. But it is believed that polo was probably first played by nomadic warriors over 2,000 years ago.

BOBBY Aguirre of the Blue team after the match.

IÑIGO Zobel with his buddy Greggy Araneta.

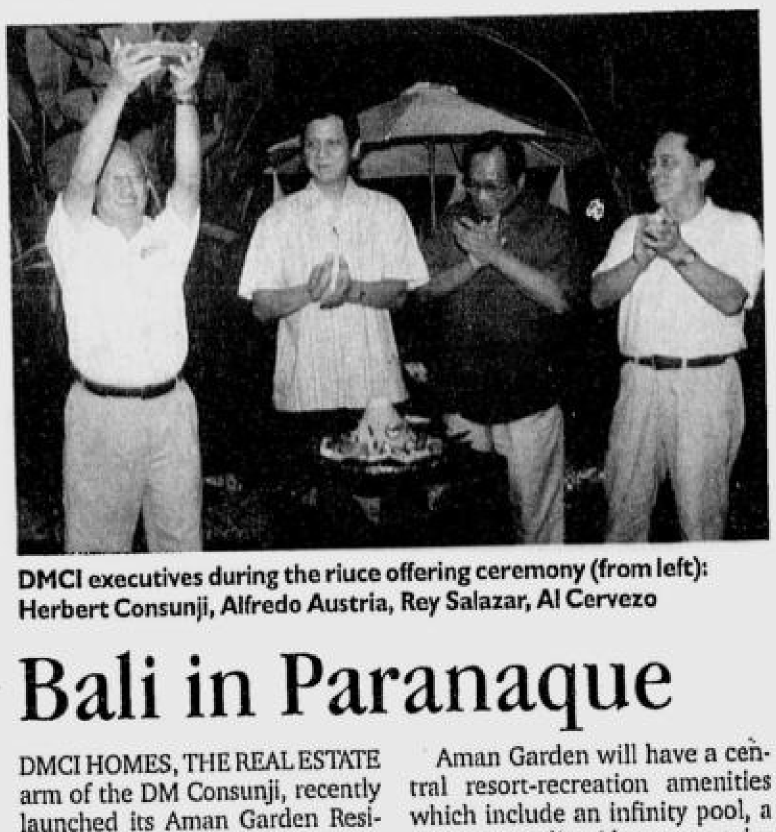
In the Philippines, the game is played only by a few, mostly the scions of rich families living inside the exclusive Forbes Park village. Leading players of polo read like the who's who in the land. Names like the Zobels, Elizaldes, Aranetas, Aguirres, Yulos, etc. dominate the sport.

But the most passionate lover of this sport was the late tycoon Enrique Zobel. Playing on many polo fields around the world, EZ (as he is fondly called) brought home countless trophies, the most prized of which was the King of Spain's Cup which he bagged three years in a row. Using "polo diplomacy," the former chief executive officer of the Ayala Corporation and Bank of the Philippine Islands helped bring together rulers of previously unfriendly Asian nations. Unfortunately, Zobel was paralyzed from neck down due to a polo accident in Spain in the early 90's. He died in 2004 from respiratory complications.

As a fitting tribute to the man, The Enrique Zobel Memorial Cup was established by his family last year to celebrate the visionary businessman's lifetime affair with horses and polo.

Last Feb. 12, the Zobel Cup brought together the finest polo players, sports enthusiasts and their families, as well as international players from Chile, Spain and Uruguay for a weekend of polo.

IÑIGO Zobel carries daughter Rocio after the high goal match where his White team beat the Blue team 17-8.



DMCI executives during the riuce offering ceremony (from left): Herbert Consunji, Alfredo Austria, Rey Salazar, Al Cervezo

Bali in Paranaque

DMCI HOMES, THE REAL ESTATE arm of the DM Consunji, recently launched its Aman Garden Residences with a Balinese setting.

Located along the West Service Road in Merville Paranaque City, the multi-million peso development adopts a Balinese designs and architecture.

Aman Garden will have a central resort-recreation amenities which include an infinity pool, a floating audio-video entertainment pavilion, meditation centers, a bi-level clubhouse with view decks and function rooms, a spa, fitness gym and a fine dining restaurant.

Take advantage of PSBank's HIGH $ RATES

	$1,000 to 9,999	$10,000 to 49,999	$50,000 to 99,999	$100,000 and up
1 month	3.0000%	3.1250%	3.2500%	3.2500%
2 months	3.1250%	3.2500%	3.3750%	3.3750%
3 months	3.2500%	3.3750%	3.3750%	3.4375%
6 months	3.2500%	3.3750%	3.4375%	3.5000%
12 months	3.3750%	3.4375%	3.5000%	3.6250%

*Quoted rates are subject to change without prior notice.
Rates are on per annum basis and subject to 7.5% withholding tax.

Open an account now at any PSBank branch nationwide!

PSBank US$ Dollar TIME DEPOSIT

Text PSBANK USTD <your name> <your landline no.> <your email address> then send to 2327 for Globe or 0917-8902327 for non-Globe users.
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum deposit insurance for each depositor P250,000

BDO

SPECIAL PUBLIC AUCTION

March 18, 2006, Saturday, 9:00 AM (registration starts at 8:30 AM)
2nd Floor of BDO Ortigas Avenue Branch (across Unimart)

Only 20% downpayment! Up to 10 years to pay! Fixed 11.5% interest for the first five (5) years!

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	*Area*	*Min Bid*
■ **RESIDENTIAL**		
CALOOCAN		
1. L8 B2, Road Lot 2, Perpetual Subd., Bagumbong	LA - 240	312,000
LAS PIÑAS		
2. House & Lot, Lot 32 B 3 # 32 / Marcellius Venezia Homes BF Resort Village, Pamplona	LA - 204 FA - 105.28	1,000,000
PARAÑAQUE		
• Washington Tower, Asiaworld City, Tambo		
3. Unit 2C	LA - 339.43	8,485,000
4. 1 parking slot for Unit 2C		400,000
5. Unit 9B *(w/ lease)*	LA - 333.2	8,996,000
6. Unit 9C *(w/ lease)*	LA - 347.67	9,387,000
7. Parking space for Unit 9B & 9C (w/ *lease*)		400,000
8. Unit 3B *(w/ lease)*	LA - 323.69	8,092,000
9. Parking space for Unit 3B *(w/ lease)*		400,000
10. Unit 2 B	LA - 323.69	8,092,000
11. Parking space for Unit 2B *(w/ lease)*		400,000
12. Penthouse Unit D (w/ *lease*)	LA - 617.13	21,599,000
13. 2 parking slots for Penthouse for Unit D *(w/ lease)*		800,000
14. H & L, No. 110 Elizalde St., BF Homes, Parañaque City *(w/ lease)*	LA - 336 FA - 194	4,000,000
15. H & L w/ swimming pool, No. 25 MJS & LPL Avenues Levitown Subd., La Huerta	LA - 801 FA - 182.70	6,000,000
16. H&L, EJ Montilla, BF Homes	LA - 280 FA - 168	3,200,000
PASIG		
17. Condo/Unit 606, Crisanta Tower, Oranbo (with parking slot) *(w/ lease)*	FA - 111.5	5,000,000
18. Townhouse/Eastside *Manor* Townhomes C. Raymundo Avenue, *Maybunga (w/ lease)*	LA -113 FA - 226.82	6,000,000
QUEZON CITY		
19. Temple Drive, Greenmeadows Subd., *Murphy* District	LA - 3552	99,456,000
TAGUIG		
20. 2 Sty H & L w/ 10 apt. units, Lot A-4 Interia, Molave St. Bagong Bayan *(no right of way)*	LA- 1025 FA - 594.88	3,700,000
ANTIPOLO		
21. Lot 16 Block 5, Pearwood Street., Cottonwood Heights	LA - 367	1,285,000
• Foliage Hills		
22. Lot 2 Block 1	LA - 240	840,000
23. Lot 4 Block 1	LA - 240	840,000
24. Lot 8 Block 3	LA - 317	1,109,000
• Mission Hills		
25. L10 B 1, Sta. Barbara	LA - 1026	4,104,000
26. L34 B 1, Concorde St., Sta. Catalina	LA - 308	1,232,000
27. L17 B 2, Clarkson St., Sta. Catalina	LA - 308	1,232,000
28. L22 B 2, Concorde St., Sta. Catalina	LA - 308	1,232,000
29. L36 B 3, Clarkson St., Sta. Catalina	LA - 308	1,232,000
30. L40 B 3, Clarkson St., Sta. Catalina	LA - 308	1,232,000
31. L44 B 3, Clarkson St., Sta. Catalina	LA - 308	1,232,000
32. L48 B 3, Clarkson St., Sta. Catalina	LA - 308	1,232,000
33. L6 B 1, Sta. *Monica Ave.*, Sta. *Monica* (through lot)	LA - 646	2,584,000
• Town and Country Hills, Bo. Munang		
34. P1 Blk 16 Lot 25, Kanlaon St.	LA - 240	602,000
35. P1 Blk 18 Lot 24, *Mayon* cor. Kanlaon St.	LA - 464	1,378,000
• Town and Country Estates, Sumulong Highway		
36. P1 Blk 4A Lot 2	LA - 994	4,165,000
37. P1 Blk 4A Lot 9	LA - 1357	5,860,000
38. P1 Blk 4A Lot 10	LA - 1351	5,836,000
39. P1 Blk 4A Lot 11	LA -1635	6,735,000
40. P1 Blk 4A Lot 18	LA -1344	5,806,000
41. P1 Blk 4B Lot 3	LA -1454	6,285,000
42. P1 Blk 4B Lot 4	LA -1169	5,050,000
43. P1 Blk 4B Lot 5	LA -1153	4,980,000
44. P1 Blk 4B Lot 6	LA -1410	6,090,000
45. 10 P1 Blk 4B Lot 7	LA -1502	6,490,000
46. P1 Blk 4B Lot 8	LA -1449	6,260,000
47. P1 Blk 4C Lot 4	LA -1550	6,700,000
48. P1 Blk 4C Lot 8	LA -1414	6,110,000
49. P1 Blk 14B Lot 2	LA -1176	5,080,000
50. P1 Blk 14B Lot 4	LA -970	4,190,000
BATANGAS		
51. Lot 1-8 J.P. Villegas St., Bo. San Pedro, Sto. Tomas	LA-111328.5	22,000,000
BULACAN		
52. 2 storey H & L, Lot 2, Blk. 7, Richmond Village Bahay Pare, *Meycauayan*	LA - 252 FA - 283.50	2,500,000
53. Res'l Agr'l Lots 2234 and 1678 National Road (DRT) Highway Bo. Anyatam, San Ildefonso *(w/ MARO recognized claimants)*	LA - 60705	3,500,000
CAVITE		
54. Unfinished House w/ basement, Lot 25 Block 30, Tanguile St., Greenbreeze Subd., Bo. Lancaan, Dasmariñas	LA - 514 FA - 297	1,500,000
55. H & L, Lot 6,7 & 8, Block B, #10 Progressive Village 7 Subd. Brgy. San Nicolas, Bacoor	LA - 740 - FA - 352.10	3,000,000
• Town and Country West, Molino Bacoor		
56. P2 Blk 7 Lot 4, Octavio St.	LA - 160	455,000
57. P2A Blk 16 Lot 7, Pontevera St.	LA - 200	612,000
LAGUNA		
58. Lot 29-B, Block 4, Road Lot 2 cor Road Lot 4 *Monte* Cecilia Subd., Bo. Diezmo, Cabuyao	LA - 1356	1,750,000
59. Resd'l lot Sitio Putol, San Isidro, Cabuyao (w/informal settlers, property cut by barangay road)	LA - 2382	2,100,000
■ **COMMERCIAL**		
MAKATI		
• ACT Tower Sen. Gil Puyat Ave & HV dela Costa St.		
60. Office Condo Unit Plus PS/Unit 7A (through lot)	FA -325.2	10,406,000
61. Office Condo Unit Plus PS/Unit 8A (through lot)	FA - 325.2	10,406,000
62. Condo/Unit 3B; (through lot) (w/ *lease*)	FA - 280.53	8,415,000
• BDO Plaza, Paseo de Roxas		
63. Condo/7th Floor Unit 1	FA - 384	13,440,000
64. Condo/7th Floor Unit 2	FA - 339	11,865,000
65. Condo/17th Floor *(w/ lease)*	FA - 373	13,055,000
66. Condo/20th Floor Unit 2	FA - 367	12,845,000
67. 11 Parking Slots for BDO Plaza *(w/ lease)*		5,500,000
68. Office/WH Bldg., 7781 St. Paul St., San Antonio Village.	LA - 1220 FA - 904.50	25,000,000
69. Unit 26, 26th Floor, The World Centre Condo. Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., H.V. dela Costa, Salcedo Vill. (through lot, with 8 parking slots) Sen. Gil Puyat Ave.	FA - 715.28	35,764,000
70. No. 379 Sen Gil Puyat Ave. and Jupiter St., Makati City (5 sty bldg on through lot, w/ rental arrears)	LA - 2000	225,000,000
QUEZON CITY		
71. Lots 3 & 4, Blk. 13, E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C5), Libis	LA - 831	37,300,000
■ **RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL (MIXED USE)**		
MALABON		
72. Res'l./Comm'l. Bldg/Lot 25-A-3, RDC Comp., Reparo Rd.	LA - 1000 FA - 3712	23,700,000
MUNTINLUPA		
73. VL Acacia Ave., Madrigal Business Park, Brgy. Ayala Alabang	LA -1194	57,312,000
PASAY		
74. Comm'l. lot/Roxas Blvd., San Rafael *(w/ informal settlers on 1/3 of lot)*	LA - 3020	108,720,000
BATAAN		
75. Rawland along Roman Highway, Lot 359-B-2, Alas-asin Mariveles *(w/ claimants)*	LA - 33468	8,500,000
BULACAN		
76. Agrifarm/Rawland/Skyline Road, Sitio Tungkong Mangga Bo. Gaya-gaya, San Jose Del *Monte*	LA - 11904.3 FA - 3515	15,200,000
CAVITE		
77. Agrifarm/Rawland, Toklong, Kawit *(no right of way)*	LA -18457	7,383,000
LAGUNA		
78. Rawland/Bo. Bucal & Lecheria, Calamba	LA - 34750	41,700,000
79. Agricultural land/ Lot 1995-U, Bo. *Mabato*, Calamba. WOP	LA - 10070	3,900,000
TARLAC		
80. Comm'l./Res'l Lots, *Moncada*, Tarlac *(w/ informal settlers)*	LA - 22619	9,050,000

- Bring Php 20,000 show money in cash or Manager's Check to qualify to bid for each property.
- Sale is on "as is where is" basis.
- Banco de Oro may, at anytime, withdraw any of the properties listed above prior to auction.

For more information, please call Joanne/Alfred at:

688-1230/688-1415

www.bancodeoro.com.ph

We find ways

BDO UNIBANK BANCO DE ORO

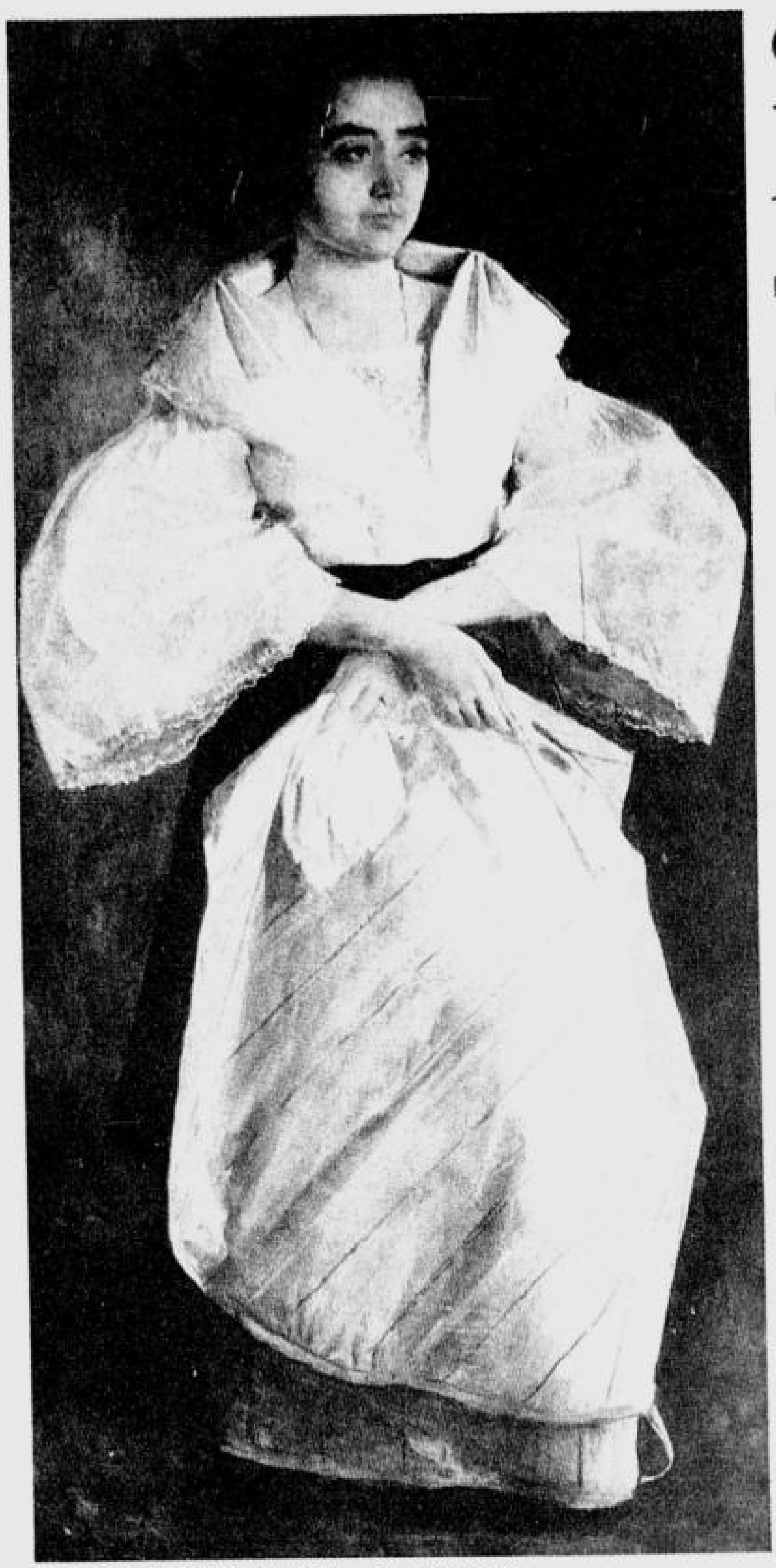
A member of the SM Group of Companies

A MONTHLY SPECIAL
on homes and gardens
/D

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Text your feedback:
Inquirer life name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart)
or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**



"LA BULAKEÑA" in the Malacañang Museum

CELEBRATING WOMEN

Maria joins the revolution

By Gilda Cordero-Fernando

(*Alay kay* Zsa Zsa Zaturnah Padilla at Gabor)

THE FAMILY ALWAYS WONDERED why my father-in-law (Dr. Antonio S. Fernando) never spoke about his mother. Once he hinted that, as a 9-year-old boy in Bulacan, he used to do the marketing. Where was his mother? One All Saints' Day, in the cemetery, my sister-in-law, Nic, asked him, "Where is your Mama buried, Papa?" Naturally uncommunicative, he tightened his lips even more and looked far, far away. But the Fernando clan, of course, had already heard of the deep dark secret. Lola Iyang had joined the Revolution and died in the mountains and her body was never found.

Her name was Maria Rodrigo, born of Gertrudis Macapugay and Nicolas Rodrigo. The Rodrigos lived in Bulacan, Bulacan, in front of the house of the great propagandist Marcelo H. del Pilar, which has now been converted into a park. Gertrudis Macapugay was related by blood to Marcelo H. and that is why there are a few Marcelos along the line, including my husband.

Lola Maria ("Iyang") had large, soulful eyes with drooping lids, dark lashes and thick eyebrows. Her hair was curly and her skin creamy white. It was said that she was so beautiful, eyes would follow her wherever she went.

She married Francisco Fernando, of landed gentry, who was reputed to have supernatural powers because he once waited out a strong typhoon in a tiny hut in the middle of an open field. The typhoon destroyed much of the town but Lolo Kikoy and the hut emerged unscathed. People were afraid of Kikoy, they called him a *maton*. He was so determined to win Lola Iyang that he would sit on her stairs with a cane all day so that no other suitors dared approach.

Maria married Kikoy in 1885 when she was about 18. She gave birth to five boys in succession. Each one must have been breastfed for there were yet no feeding bottles. Or Pampers. Or Cerelac. It surely was a difficult chore to be a mother then and, on top of it all, she was married to this humorless guy.

Bulacan in the 1880s, especially on the street where Marcelo H. del Pilar lived, must have been in such ferment. Plans for a revolution were coming to a head. Maria Rodrigo lived in the house in front of Marcelo H. del Pilar, her uncle. Down the street lived her cousin, Goyo (Gregorio del Pilar, known later as the "Boy General").

> Who was the mysterious model of Juan Luna in the Filipino Mona Lisa, 'La Bulakeña'?

Marcelo H. del Pilar was a lawyer, a nationalist whom historians consider at par with Rizal. Like Rizal and Lopez Jaena, his triumvirate, Del Pilar was not for wrecking the establishment but for peaceful reforms from the Spanish government. He was the formulator of the Filipino reform demands through his activist paper, La Solidaridad. He was Plaridel, the great organizer of the Propaganda Movement, first in Bulacan and Malolos, and then in Madrid.

Del Pilar was particularly mad at the friars for whom he wrote special "novenas" and "prayers" such as: "*Amo naming nasa kumbento ka, sumpain ang ngalan mo, gitliin ang leeg mo...*" Young boys led by Gregorio del Pilar distributed these "novenas" during the fiestas, at the church door and in the cockpit.

Hatred

Del Pilar's hatred of the friars began when his oldest brother Toribio, a priest, was found with a letter from Padre Burgos and thrown in the Malolos jail. Later removed from prison, his hands were tied with a rope attached to the reins of a horse. With soldiers on either side of him, Padre Toribio was paraded on the street walking from Malolos to Bulacan.

The stricken Marcelo witnessed this, and approached the *guardia civil* to request that Toribio go up their house to bless their mother who was ill. The request was ignored. Farther down the street, a young female relative waited with a glass of water. This, too, was denied. (These types of occurrences were common during the Spanish regime.)

Del Pilar had many visitors to his home in San Nicolas, Bulacan. Some were clients (he was a sought-after *abogado de campanilla*), and some, his friends, most of whom were personalities of the revolution (read, coconspirators). Guests stayed in Bulacan for a day or even a week since travel was often long and arduous. The whole genteel town was related in some way or another and went out of its way to entertain Del Pilar's guests.

One time it was Antonio Luna who came to visit with his brother, Juan Luna. (It is of record that the brothers often traveled together). They came all the way from Batac on horseback and stayed a few days. Antonio was always in a closed-door huddle with Marcelo H. in the book-lined library while Juan Luna wandered on a horse all over town, looking for nice views to sketch. Little boys followed him about, peering over his shoulder at his drawing pad. Sometimes he would

MARIA/ C4

A PEKAS-FREE PHILIPPINES WITH Pynocare 40 Actisome

From as far north as Baguio to as far south as Davao, the common problem of dark patches, skin discoloration, dark spots or pekas on many Filipina faces is steadily becoming a thing of the past, largely due to, the first oral treatment for pekas — Pynocare 40 Actisome.

Celebrating its first year in the Philippines, Pynocare 40 Actisome has gone around the Philippines over the last 12 months through the "Pekas-Free Filipina" mall activation tour to allow more Filipinas to discover for themselves the wonders of pekas-free skin.

As part of Mega We Care's initiative, it will continue to visit malls in other parts of the archipelago to bring to more women this trusted and reliable brand in Southeast Asia backed up by:

- Two clinical studies in Thailand and Malaysia attesting to its 85% efficacy rate
- Strengthened by its unique MSCC (Melasma Skin Clear Complexion) Complex Actisome product formulation that combats melasma or pekas from within
- And over 200,000 women all over Southeast Asia enjoying the benefits of pekas-free skin

Vicky, 50, Mother
Benita, 38, Housewife
Eva, 38, Self-employed
Flordeliza, 48, Housewife

Vicky Batu, Benita Vinluan, Eva Ducat and Flordeliza Pamplona of Metro Manila were among the first wave of satisfied Filipinas who are now enjoying glowing pekas-free skin!

Catch the Pekas-Free Filipinas Tour in major malls nationwide:

Glorietta, Ayala Center
March 8-12

SM Megamall
March 9-16

Island City Mall, Bohol
March 17-19

SM North Edsa
March 30-April 5

Be one of the Pekas-Free Filipinas!

The bandwagon of satisfied Pynocare users continue to grow as more and more women from all over the Philippines are discovering the secret to Pekas-Free skin!

"Sun exposure and use of cosmetics over the last seven years caused my pekas. After taking Pynocare, the discoloration all over my body lightened by 70% and became smoother! I am satisfied with the results."
- Adela Hipolito, a 46-year-old businesswoman and Pynocare user of 8 weeks

Adela Hipolito of Tarlac

"I've been using Pynocare for a month now and I am very satisfied with the results. The changes I have seen on my face have convinced me to continue using Pynocare."
- Rosanna Ocampo, a 46-year-old housewife, Pynocare user of 4 weeks

Rosanna Ocampo from Baguio

"I play golf a lot and I've been suffering from Melasma for 5 years now, as a result of excess sun exposure. I tried topical creams but struggled with the recurring condition and felt that it was a waste of money. Now that I am using Pynocare, I am satisfied with the lightening and reduction."
- Joyce Fukuda, a 44-year-old golfer, Pynocare user of 4 weeks

Joyce Fukuda from Pampanga

"I have had melasma for the last five years as a result of excessive use of astringents and direct exposure to the sun. Since I started using Pynocare, I've noticed my cheeks have cleared up considerably. People around me have started noticing it too."
- Adela Pasicolan, a 34-year-old Assistant Branch Manager, Pynocare user of 3 months

Adela Pasicolan from Davao

"I discovered Pynocare during the Pekas-Free Filipina Mall Tour here in Cebu. Since then, I have been using the product and observed that my melasma spots started to lighten. I'm happy with the results."
- Jenny Chua Chan, a 48-year-old Bank Employee and Pynocare user of 3 months

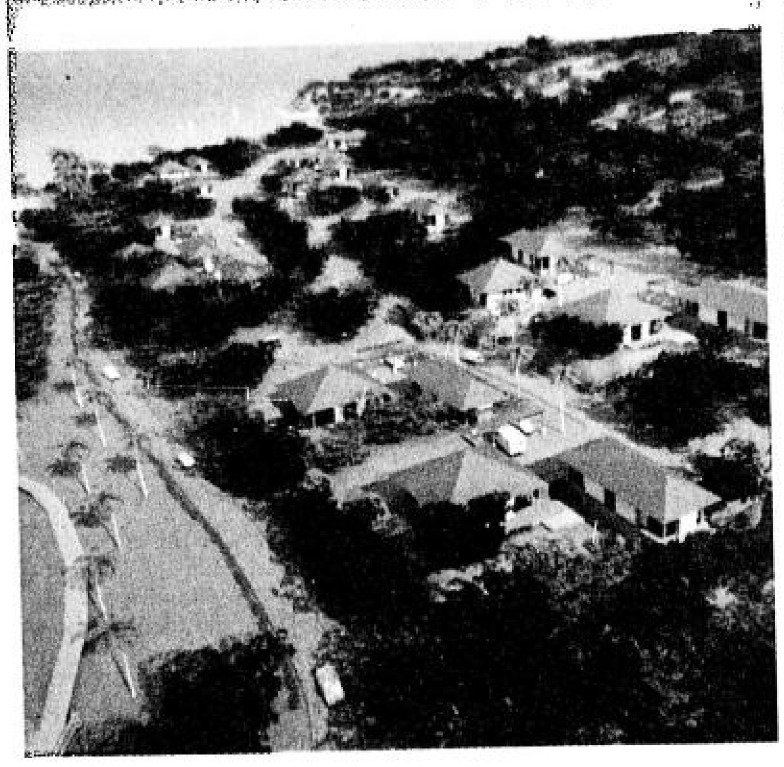
Jenny Chan of Cebu

No Peels. No Chemicals. No Lasers. No Pain.
Just 2 capsules a day for at least 8 weeks, and Be Pekas-Free.

MEGA We care
Unit 4B, 4th Floor, EuroVilla II, 118 VA Rufino Street,
Legaspi Village, Makati City

Available at mercury drug
NAKASISIGURO GAMOT AY LAGING BAGO
and other leading drugstores nationwide.

[illegible] on Pynocare 40 Actisome, call HOTLINE: 894-1111 • TEXT LINE: 0917-8274330



The Seaside Villas: Luxury dictated by nature

Effortless luxury in one of the least spoiled, natural sanctuaries in Northern Luzon is the striking proposition being offered by The Seaside Villas, a prime community of only 17 units within Anvaya Cove. The 320-hectare development in Morong, Bataan is the maiden leisure project of Ayala Land Premier (ALP) that is set to become one of the most prestigious and exclusive neighborhoods for second homes.

Inspired by highly acclaimed tropical resorts in Asia and Hawaii that intrinsically harmonize with the environment, The Seaside Villas allows gracious and comfortable living in sync with the lush tropical setting of Anvaya Cove. As conceptualized by LV Locsin and Partners, the airy villas with lot sizes that range from 900-1,700 sqm. are intimately related to the panorama of sea and lush rolling terrain in this stretch of the Bataan coast.

According to Marivic E. Anonuevo, Ayala Land vice president and ALP head of Lifestyle and Leisure Communities Group, only 17 units will be built in this community set to become the address of choice of discriminating homeowners seeking a second home. "The market for these kinds of developments exists across Asia but homeowners prefer to limit the scale of these communities," she says.

Each home consists of two pavilions, both single-level structures laid out over a deck with a plunge pool. The Social Pavilion includes the living and dining room, den and toilet and bath with spaces flowing into one another and spilling over to the deck. Geared for gatherings with the extended family as well as sunset cocktails with colleagues, this Pavilion accommodates easy entertaining and convivial get-togethers. It also thoughtfully includes a fully-fitted kitchen, utility and other necessary working areas. In case of inclement weather or when the humidity becomes overbearing, air-conditioning has been provided for all the rooms including the kitchen.

The best way for guests and homeowners alike to cool off quickly, nevertheless, is through the plunge pool, a welcome amenity found in each of the villas. Even better, the villas are a short stroll away from the Anvaya beach cove, one of the most friendly environments for swimmers and beachcombers in Northern Luzon with its 1.2 km. coastline.

To allow privacy to the privileged homeowners of The Seaside Villas, the bedrooms, which likewise all have air-conditioning, are located in a separate pavilion. The bedrooms are focused on views of the sea or the lush foliage to heighten the experience of being in a nature reserve. Observes Ms. Anonuevo, "When one is in touch with nature, it is much easier to be in touch with one's self. Each of the villas has also been envisioned as a personal sanctuary."

True to the developer's promise to provide effortless luxury, the exterior and interior details and finishes of The Seaside Villas have been selected for easy maintenance. Natural stone and wood details are used in keeping with the rustic surroundings. Moreover, maintenance, landscape, housekeeping and other services have been made available in response to the request of clients who seek refuge in family time, the natural beauty of Anvaya Cove and its promise of endless summers.

In addition, planners have drawn extensively from the needs and experiences of villa homeowners in Asia, which would otherwise be alien to the private individual outing up a beach property on his own. "Like all other Ayala Land projects, The Seaside Villas will be backed by our long track record in building homes that appreciate in value over time," notes Anonuevo.

Ayala Land Premier (ALP), the new name for the top-end developments of Ayala Land providing security, ultimate comfort, and privacy. It embodies Ayala Land's trademark legacy of enhancing the residents' quality of life with its portfolio of prime locations and trophy addresses. With its superior customer care and property management, ALP ensures exclusivity and value over time.

Ms. Marivic Anonuevo with her family and friend

The Cronin family and ALSI Property Specialist Reggie de Luna as they partake on a sumptuous lunch prepared at the Marketing Pavilion

A taste of the Anvaya Cove experience

The soothing sounds of birds and wind chimes are likely to make a lasting impression on chosen guests invited this summer to experience Anvaya Cove, the Ayala Land Premier seaside residential resort in Morong, Bataan. Most likely to become a prestigious second address of choice, the 320-hectare property offers wooded, rolling terrain that slopes down to a charming 1.2 km. private beach cove. Proof of its unspoiled state, the Anvaya Cove shoreline continues to serve as refuge for *pawikan* hatchlings part of the year.

Prospective homeowners invited to the place during the Open House last year attest that the visit is a refreshing opportunity to commune with nature. A leisurely two-and-a-half hour drive from Metro Manila, the sight of shafts of sunlight through the lush foliage of the adjoining Subic Bay Development serves as a foretaste of the Anvaya Cove experience.

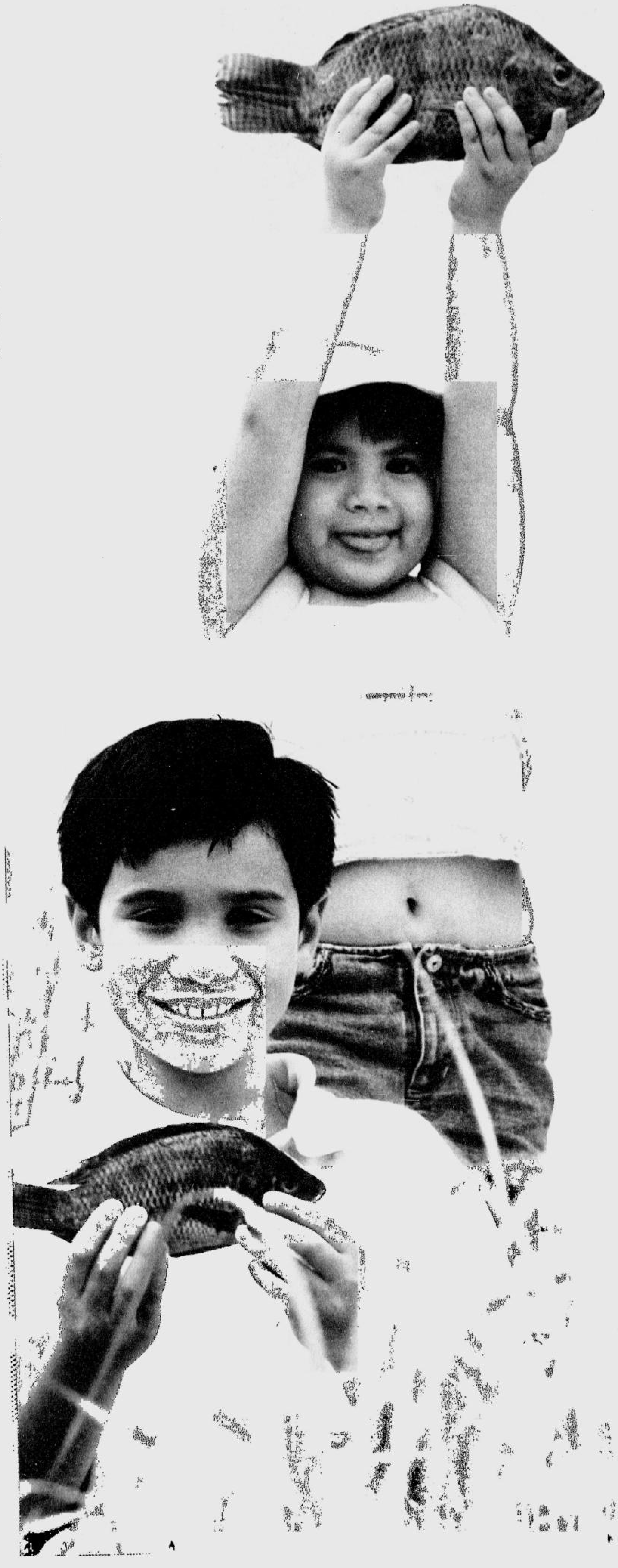
At the impressive tropical Asian-inspired marketing pavilion, guests are encouraged to take in other sounds and sights with the aid of binoculars: the gentle curve of the cove, the calm waters of Subic Bay at one's feet, the spectacular views of the Silanguin and Bataan mountain ranges, incessant bird talk within the wooded property.

Families are now welcome to have a taste of the Anvaya Cove experience. Organized by Ayala Land Premier sales executives who are ready to respond to their guests' every need, bookings are made and visits are planned as intimate events for families seeking a place to spend time together. After a gracious lunch, tours of the various phases of the community and the spectacular The Seaside Villas follow. Guests may opt for a massage and a sales briefing but in general are left pretty much to decide how they want to spend the rest of the day. Whatever they choose, they leave the place knowing that Anvaya Cove will live up to its promise of family time and endless summers.

Invitations to visit Anvaya Cove are issued by Ayala Land Premier sales executives. To register your interest in Anvaya Cove, please call (632) 728-7000 or (632) 892-3333, or e-mail anvayacove@ayalaland.com.ph.

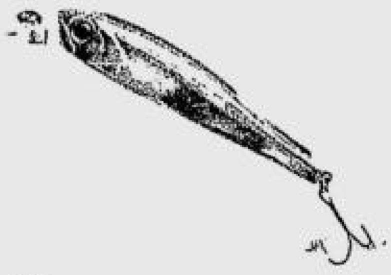
The Soler family, one of Anvaya Cove's first onsite guests

AyalaLand PREMIER



You should have seen the size of the one that got away!! (It gets bigger each time it is re-told!)

Fish stories. Afternoons by the lagoon. Family. All this is home.



Family time.
Endless summers.

ANVAYA
COVE
Leisure Community

A joint development project of Ayala Land, Inc. and SUDECO.

For villas, lots and club membership inquiries
call (632) 728-7000 or (632) 892-3333
e-mail anvayacove@ayalaland.com.ph
or visit www.anvayacove.com

HLURB License to Sell Nos.: 12469, 13414, 13440. SEC Registration Order No. 067, Series of 2006.

Maria joins the revolution

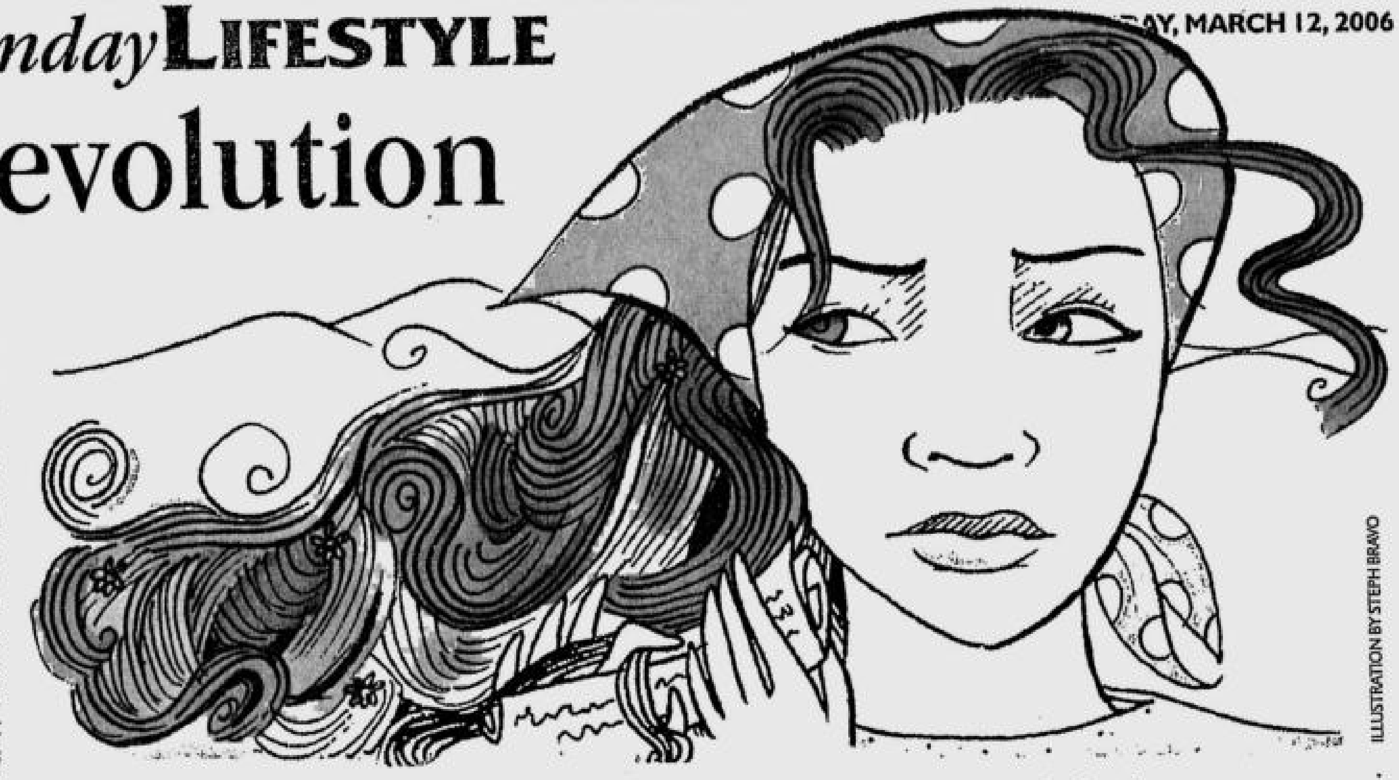


ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

turn around and sketch the boys instead. One day, around 1883 or 1884, goes the town legend, Juan Luna spotted the pretty Maria, who was 15 or 16 then, in the house of Del Pilar. He must have found her exceptionally good-looking because he requested that she go home and change into a Maria Clara, saying he wanted to paint her. He made several pencil sketches of Maria. The portrait in oil was finished much later, in Luna's studio, in Calle Alix in Sampaloc in 1895.

That is the famed "La Bulakeña," now hanging in Malacañang. Like the "Mona Lisa," the identity of its subject has been claimed by several quarters, including First Lady Imelda Marcos, who said it was one of her ancestors. Not content with mere conjecture, Benita Marasigan Santos (now 88), granddaughter of Marcelo H. del Pilar, did active investigation in the '70s on "La Bulakeña."

Digging up the past

Benita, Mila Enriquez of the Bulacan Historical Commission and my sister-in-law, Dr. Asuncion "Nic" Fernando, went to Bulacan to interview its old residents who were asked to remember the events of their childhood and what they heard older relatives say. The trio dug for old photos and church records more than a century old. The visit of Juan Luna "who was drawing Iyang" was well remembered by Maria's first cousin, Angelina Rodrigo, who lived with her in the same house. So was Juan Luna remembered, by another interviewee, emerging from the Del Pilar stable on a horse. The young boys who followed him around, by then very old men, remembered the visit of "Don Marcelo's friend," too.

There was no existing photograph of Maria to compare the painting with, but by sleuthing, the three found a group picture of Maria's two brothers and two sisters in their advanced age. They all looked like Maria. If features are indeed a clue, then add to that the striking resemblance of trademark eyes and bushy eyebrows to present-day Rodrigos—the late Sen. Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo, whose father is the younger brother of Maria, his daughter Ditas, and her cousins Fenina and Dodo Ayuyao. "And of course," says Benita, "the subject had to be a native of Bulacan that's why Juan Luna entitled it "La Bulakeña."

Why was she not identified by Juan Luna? (Maybe he didn't remember her name.) Why was it not painted in oil until 10 years later? (Maybe he discovered he liked his sketches of her only then. It is a minor painting).

According to Benita, the painting passed on to the estate of Andres Luna de San Pedro, only son of Juan Luna. When he died, the Philippine government acquired the painting (or maybe something else happened). It has been displayed in Malacañang since 1957. After the Edsa revolution, when Malacañang was turned into a museum and opened to the public, the painting began to get attention. There were many speculations on who the subject was. Of course, the combination of interviews, bits and pieces of information and conjectures put forth by Benita Marasigan Santos in her '70s article entitled "La Bulakeña," proves nothing airtight. And it is not the interest of this article to enter that bit of debate. It simply wants to bring to light more information on Maria Rodrigo whom most Bulakeños, just incidentally, believe to be the Fernando grandmother.

Women warriors

One day, when the youngest of her five sons was 4 years old, the spirited Maria Rodrigo actively joined the revolution. She rode her husband's horse and, it was said, she never rode a horse side-saddle, but astride, like a man. She joined the Bulacan brigade of Katipuneros to be the courier of her cousin Gregorio del Pilar. That day they were leaving their homes in Bulacan for the field where they were to merge with other brigades. Many women, too, were going to war. They pitched camp wherever they could and were welcomed in every town. General Goyo must have been very young then because he died at 22 in the retreat to Ilocos, at Tirad Pass. Maria was and probably 29 or 30. First, they were fighting the Spaniards and, in a matter of days, the Americans were the new enemy. The declaration of the Philippine Republic in Malolos, complete with flags, carriages and banquet had been cruelly ignored.

Women in the revolution served mostly as couriers but it was a very dangerous occupation. There was no other means of reporting news from the field to the towns, the different troops and the commanders. The women hid the messages knotted into their hair or under their Maria Clara skirts, or sewn at the hem, or they delivered them orally. Some women carried a bolo, under their skirt, moving it behind or in front to avoid detection. There were also secret visual messages that served as warning, like letting down one's hair or turning around one's *tapis*.

In a rumor cited in a written document by a Salvador Estrella, member of the Dimabangga chapter of Kakarong Sili, Maria Rodrigo was being suspected by some *insurrectos* of being a double agent. They called her Mariang Bankera because she often slipped into the Spanish quarters trying to get information. ("Bankera" also meant "*namamangka sa dalawang ilog*").

The last reported sighting of Maria Rodrigo as Katipunera was of her riding a horse to Bulacan after the fierce battle at Calumpit. The encounter had weakened the American forces greatly and led to the death in Kingwa (now Plaridel) of Colonel Stotsenberg, their commander. Gen. Gregorio del Pilar feared a fierce retaliation in his town. Maria was sent to warn the people to flee, which saved much of the populace. It is believed that she died after that mission, unable to rejoin her brigade in the mountains.

Of course, there were other women in the revolution (more prominent in history) but they had no marital ties to deal with. Trinidad Tecson, who went to battle wearing the male Katipunan uniform, was reputed to be a tomboy. Gabriela Silang was revenging the killing of her husband, Diego Silang. Gregoria de Jesus was the widow of Andres Bonifacio. But Maria Rodrigo? *Kababaing tao, may mga anak, sumama sa rebolusyon!* Her relatives, her townmates, kept silent to protect her, to protect themselves.

Silence

After WWII, when researches on women in the revolution were just beginning, it was difficult to extract anything from the conservative populace of Bulacan. It was the age of zippered mouths. When asked, the old women would make the sign of the cross and say, "*Naku, hija, delikadong bagay yan, huwag na nating pag-usapan.*" They refused to remember Loreto Lucero who had so disrespectfully slapped a *kura* for making advances at her. They kept secret the details of the shameful Sta. Isabel teachers who ran after and undressed a *kura* who was molesting them.

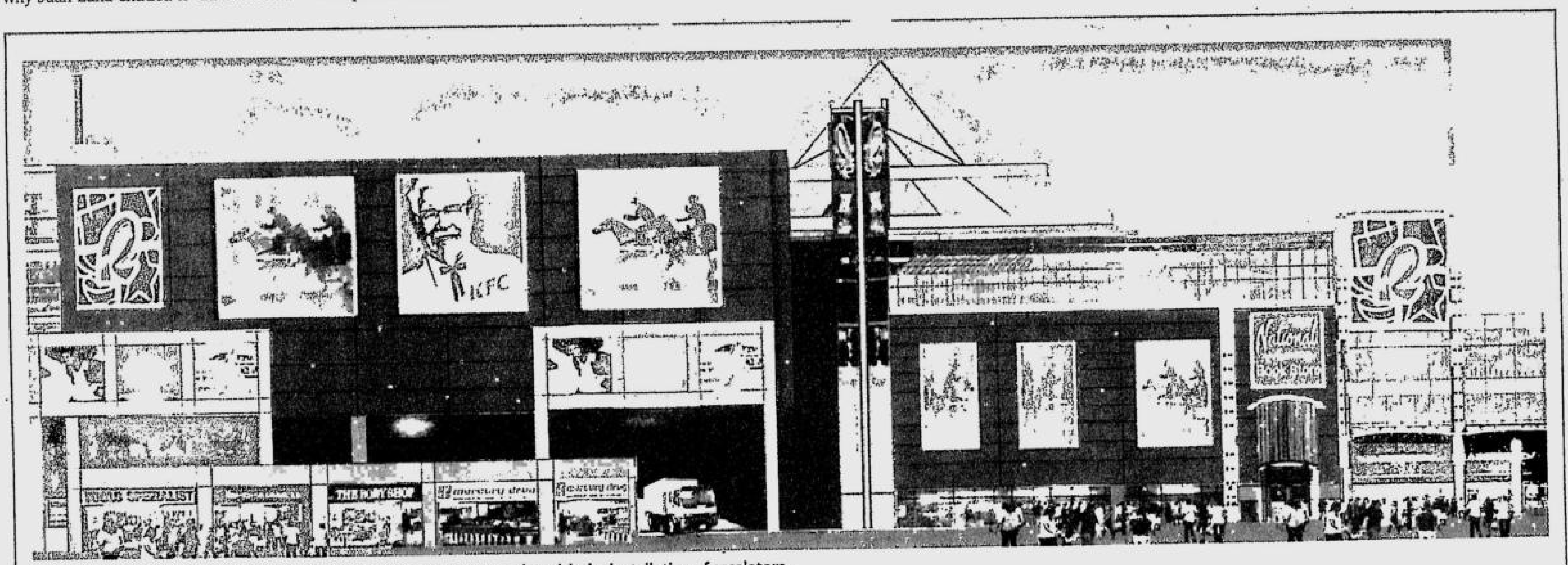
They were ashamed, too, of Doña Petronia de Enriquez for being an occasional jailbird. She was picked up and brought to prison every time there was an incident in town because she had three Katipunero sons. (She was allowed to take her maid with her, though.) And protective, too, and silent about Doña Marciana, wife of Marcelo H. del Pilar, who was denied confession and communion by the strict Augustinian parish priest of Bulacan. He would scold her and send her home. To keep up with her faith, Doña Marciana would go to Manila to confess and receive holy communion in Tondo church.

And so, many simply turned Aglipayan or Masonic. Subversives and excommunicants, moreover, could not be buried in the Catholic cemetery. That is why there were once occasional strange mausoleums standing in the middle of the rice fields of Bulacan.

After Maria Rodrigo Fernando left, my father-in-law, Antonio, and his brothers, José, Juan, Roque and Isaias, were forbidden to utter their mother's name in the house again. The five sons were farmed out to Maria's sisters and brothers who reared and gave all of them a good education. Two became doctors, one a lawyer, another an educator, another an engineer. Francisco Fernando remarried. The sons never used their mother's family name. They chose to be known not as Rodrigo Fernandos but as Sepulveda Fernandos, though who Sepulveda was never got figured out in this generation.

And so, that is the family secret. That Lola Iyang was able to turn around her anger at the women's lot in which she found herself trapped, to the real enemy. And that brave and beautiful Katipunera Maria was truly a feminist darling.

(With thanks to lawyer Benita M. Santos and Mila Enriquez for the information in this article. Incidentally, my bestseller, "The Last Full Moon," is available at Fully Booked, PowerBooks Greenbelt 4, Megamall and Alabang; National Bookstore Shangri-La, Glorietta 1, Greenbelt 1 and Alabang, Metropolitan Museum, and Datelines in Cubao.)


ROBINSONS Galleria's West Wing facing Edsa will make access easier with the installation of escalators.

New season for west wing

TOYS R Us will open its first outlet in the Philippines at the fourth level.

Robinsons Galleria is undergoing a major makeover that it hopes will attract whole families, not just individual shoppers

ROBINSONS Galleria West Wing makeover focuses on form and function.

By Linda B. Bolido

THE WEST WING WILL BE reborn. No, not the canceled award-winning television series about a fictional American president and politics in the United States.

What is getting a major facelift to make it even more consumer-friendly and competitive is the Robinsons Galleria, a major Ortigas landmark fronted by the historic Edsa shrine.

The transformation planned for the flagship of the Robinsons malls is designed to make it a popular destination seven days a week for whole families. Redoing the West Wing, which is right on Edsa, will complete the mall's makeover that started with the renovation of the East Wing on the ADB Road side some three years ago. The whole project is expected to be completed last quarter of the year.

As explained by Cornelio "Nilo" S. Mapa Jr., general manager, commercial centers division, the mall has a strong weekday market being right smack in the middle of a major access road connecting Metro Manila to Rizal. "But we want people to stay longer and to attract families on weekends," he said.

To achieve this goal, Galleria will regroup, relocate and reformat.

Mapa promised "more choices, exciting and unique retail formats and more dining options." Galleria aims to maintain its reputation for hosting establishments that offer goods and services that cannot be found elsewhere, even as it will launch premium labels.

Already set to open its first Philippine outlet at the fourth level of the mall is the American chain Toys R Us, a major component of Galleria's goal to be more child-friendly. The store which, as the name suggests, is a treasure trove of almost everything a child, regardless of his/her interests, can wish for, will anchor a group of entertainment/amusement places catering to kids.

Teens and young adults will have their own special corner on the same level.

The West Wing redevelopment will cover all four levels of the Edsa side, covering over 7,000 square meters. New food outlets and quaint cafés will dot areas with interactive exhibits and attractions.

WEST Wing's redesign aims to make shopping stress-free and relaxing.

THE SECOND level will have a totally new look as escalators will take people directly to the area.

With the installation of escalators at the Edsa side to bring people directly from street level to the second floor, a major overhaul of that part of the mall is in the works. Fashion-forward retailers like the United Kingdom-based Top Man and Dorothy Perkins will greet people as they enter the mall.

Despite anxiety generated in some mall management by the existence of retail outlets like 168 in Binondo, Mapa's not anticipating any major competition from places like those. He said Robinsons Galleria has enough unique and interesting components for people to stay loyal to it.

Sunday LifeStyle

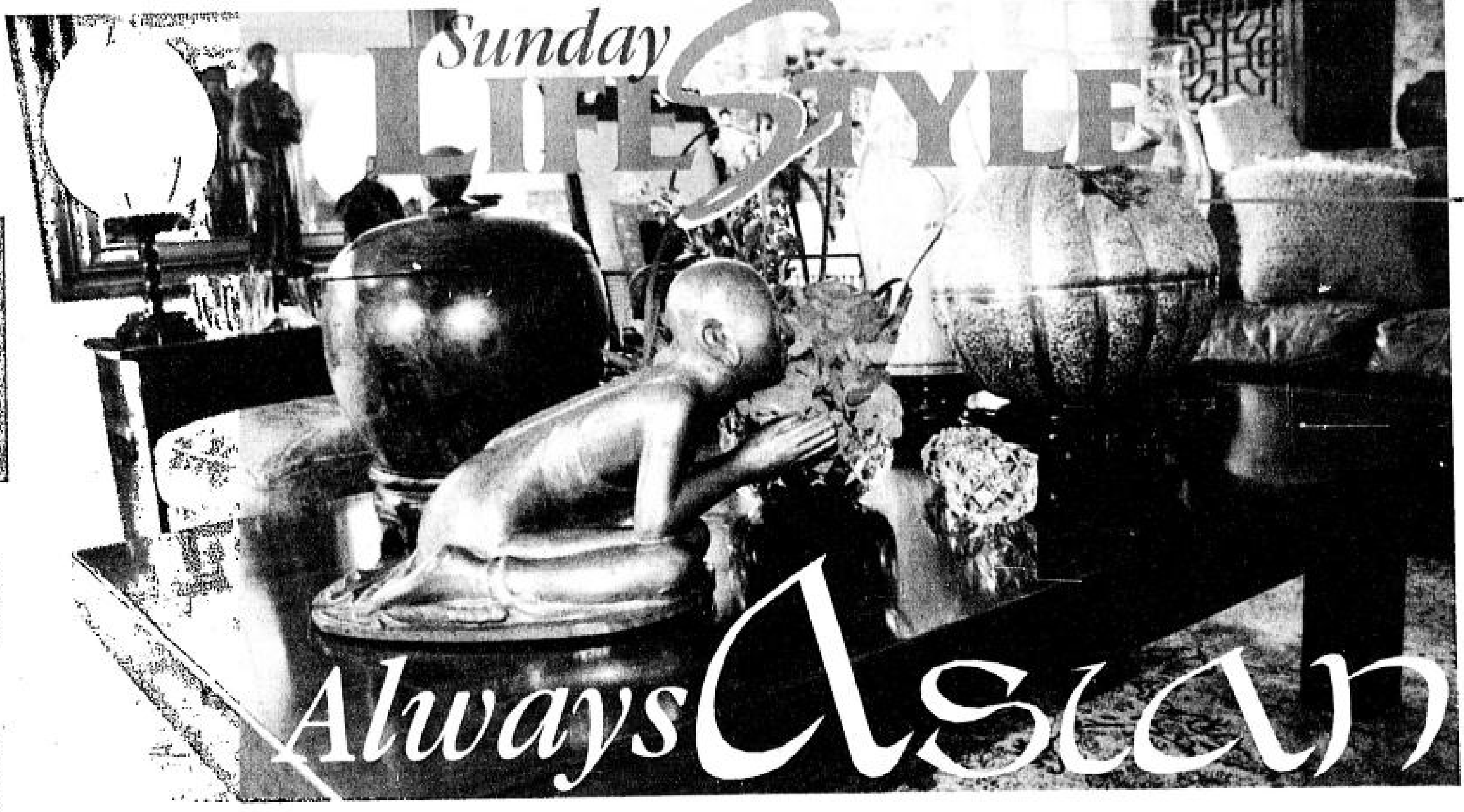
Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**

By a quiet garden /D2

Eric Paras' sense of design /D6

Woodsman to Hollywood /D8

at HOME



Always Asian

Pachot Mapa surrounds herself and her family with her kind of things

Text by Anne A. Jambora
Photos by Chito Vecina

PACHOT MAPA HAS A PASSION FOR THINGS old. Older than me, she jokingly remarks. A step into her home is like a journey into time. History is captured in interesting objets d'art that liberally fill her space. The two-story, six-bedroom 796-sq m home is very much like a showroom for her antique shop, Old Asia. And she is no minimalist.

"I like to have a lot of things," she says.

She has, in fact, a large closet full of knickknacks. Her home possessions are too many she has lost track of them. Lucky for her, she says, she has a staff of honest household help.

To keep her home beguiling to her frequent guests and to herself, Mapa changes the layout of her interiors as often as six times a year. When she does, she takes out some pieces from the closet to replace those that have already seen the sunlight. Nothing goes to waste, and each one is given its due space—and admiring audience—in time.

The only permanent fixtures are the leather sofa set and narra coffee table in the living area that are merely rearranged to complement the new décor. Everything else moves from room to room or goes straight to the storage. And this she does quickly in half a day with the help of her experienced staff from Old Asia.

Her keen eye for detail has made her meticulously selective of her home articles. Often she would first take photos of her layout concepts, a blueprint of sorts, before deciding what works. If she runs out of ideas, she turns to her son, Jojo, an interior designer, for advice.

A home, she says, must be practical and elegant to suit the lifestyle of the homeowners. And the Mapa home is as elegant as soft silk that gracefully glides over the body. After all, fine taste is second skin to this antique lover.

Imposing

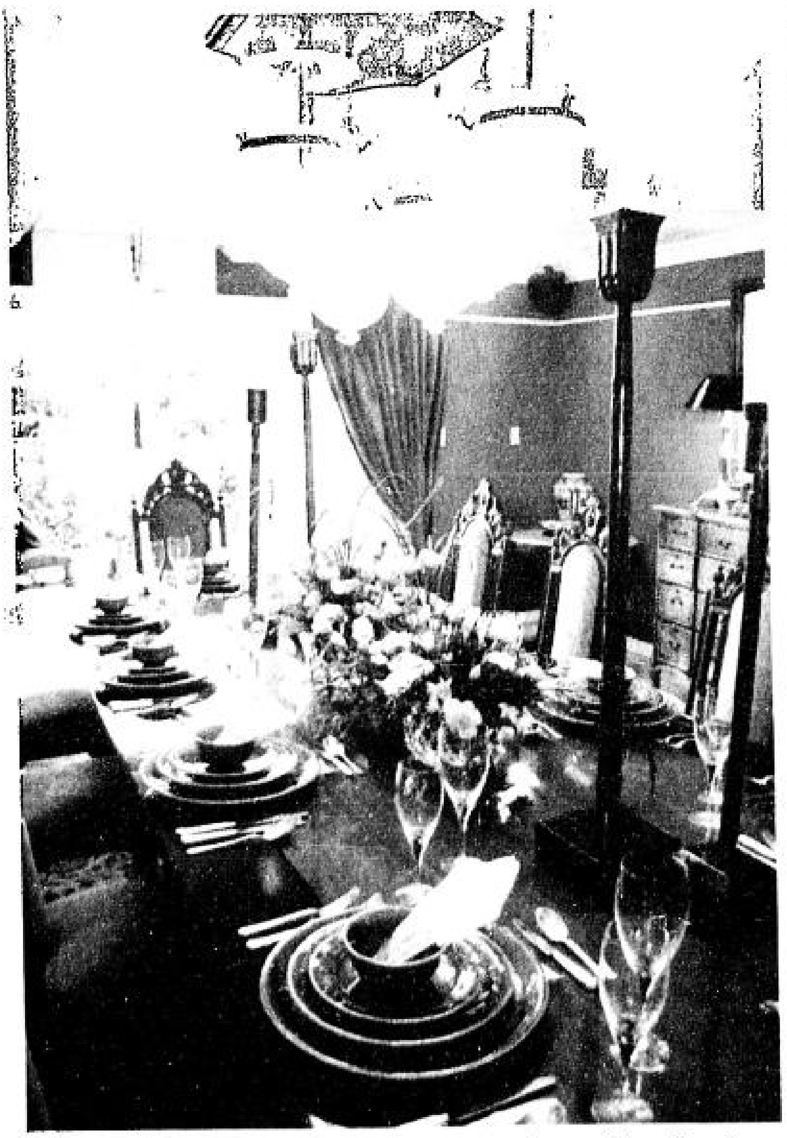
Upon entrance, guests are immediately enthralled at the foyer by the imposing 16-ft mirror framed against an antique Chinese board. The board, she says, bears Chinese calligraphy at the back. To make it useful, Mapa had the mirror installed.

Just above the mirror is an old Indian chandelier. Where candles used to flicker in this old-fashioned lighting system, she had them replaced with modern electric bulbs for convenience. Stretched out below the mirror is a small, 200-year-old Chinese iron bathtub, adorned with greens and blooms arranged by florist Jaime Santiago.

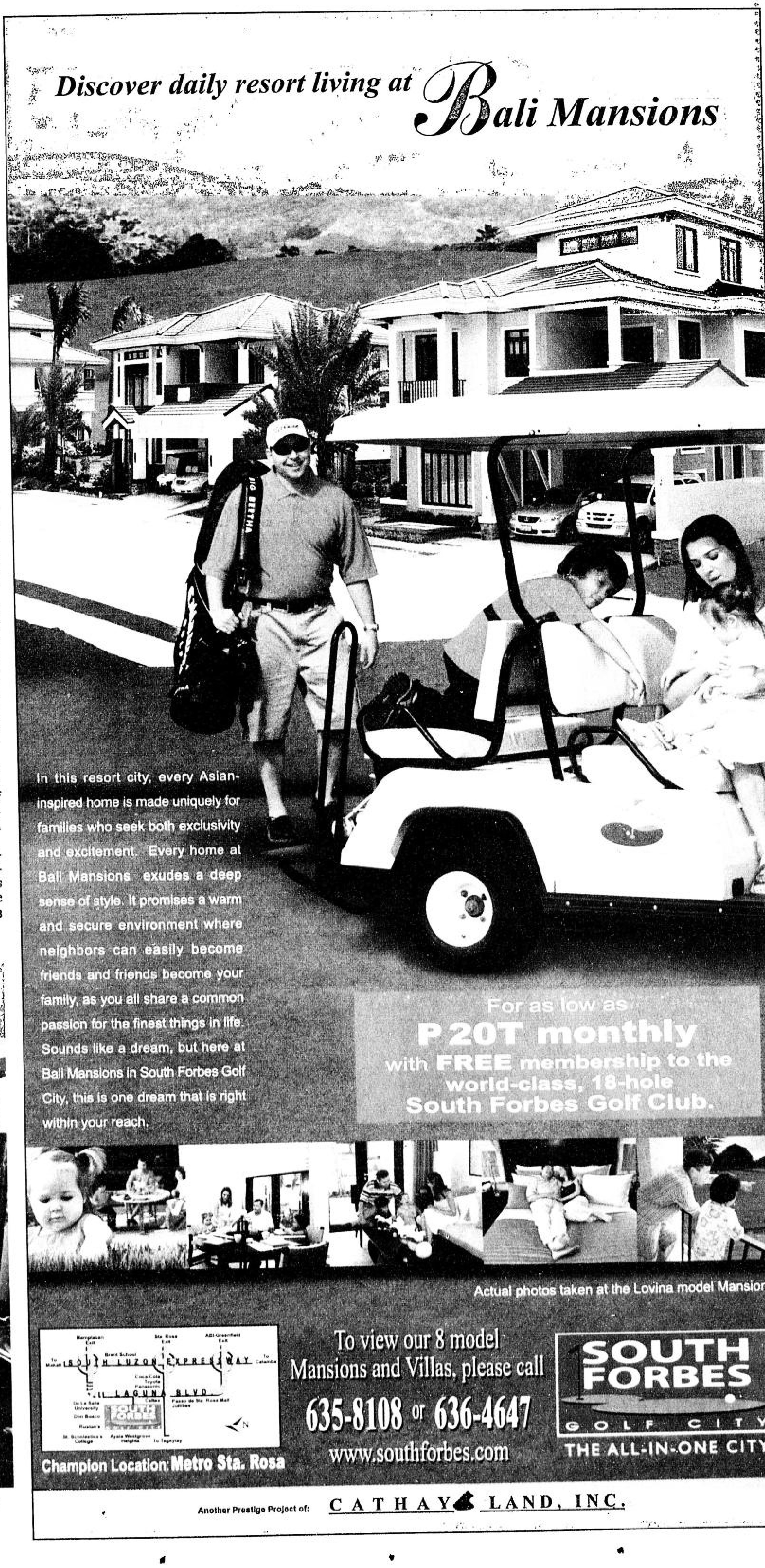
A few steps away is an old Filipino altar table now turned console table, with the sculpture of the goddess Kuan Yin, from Thailand, and silver bowls filled with flowers from China.

The bedroom of Mapa's mother has been converted into a lovely den, its old charm palpable as the aged furniture that fills the

ALWAYS/ D3



DINING ROOM. The long table is perfect for the traditional family feast. "My grandchildren would sit through dinner with me, and I would teach them proper table etiquette," Mapa says.



Discover daily resort living at ***Bali Mansions***

In this resort city, every Asian-inspired home is made uniquely for families who seek both exclusivity and excitement. Every home at Bali Mansions exudes a deep sense of style. It promises a warm and secure environment where neighbors can easily become friends and friends become your family, as you all share a common passion for the finest things in life. Sounds like a dream, but here at Bali Mansions in South Forbes Golf City, this is one dream that is right within your reach.

For as low as
P 20T monthly
with **FREE** membership to the world-class, 18-hole South Forbes Golf Club.

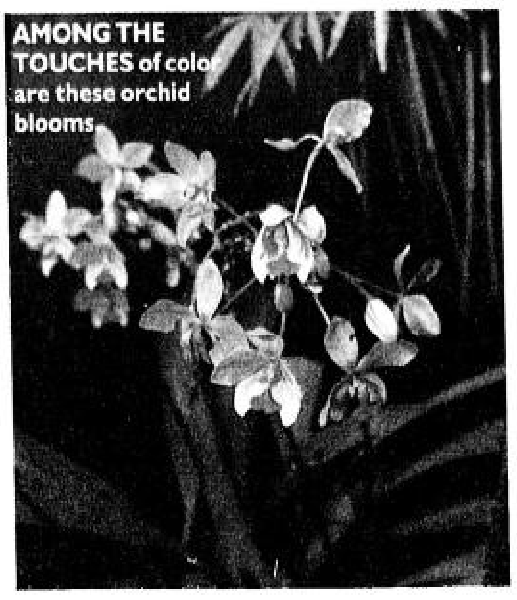
Actual photos taken at the Lovina model Mansion.

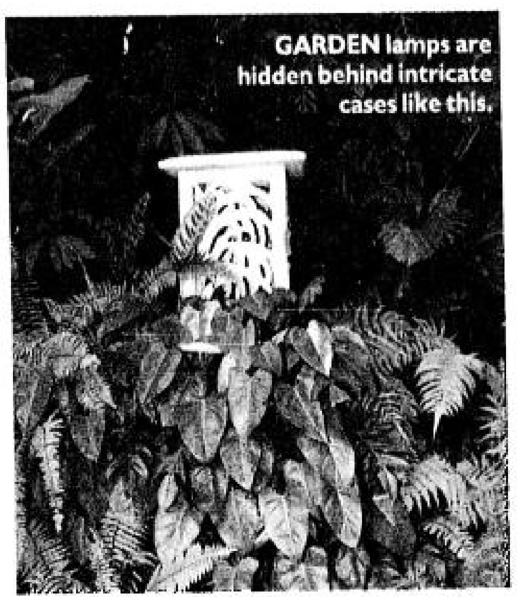
Champion Location: **Metro Sta. Rosa**

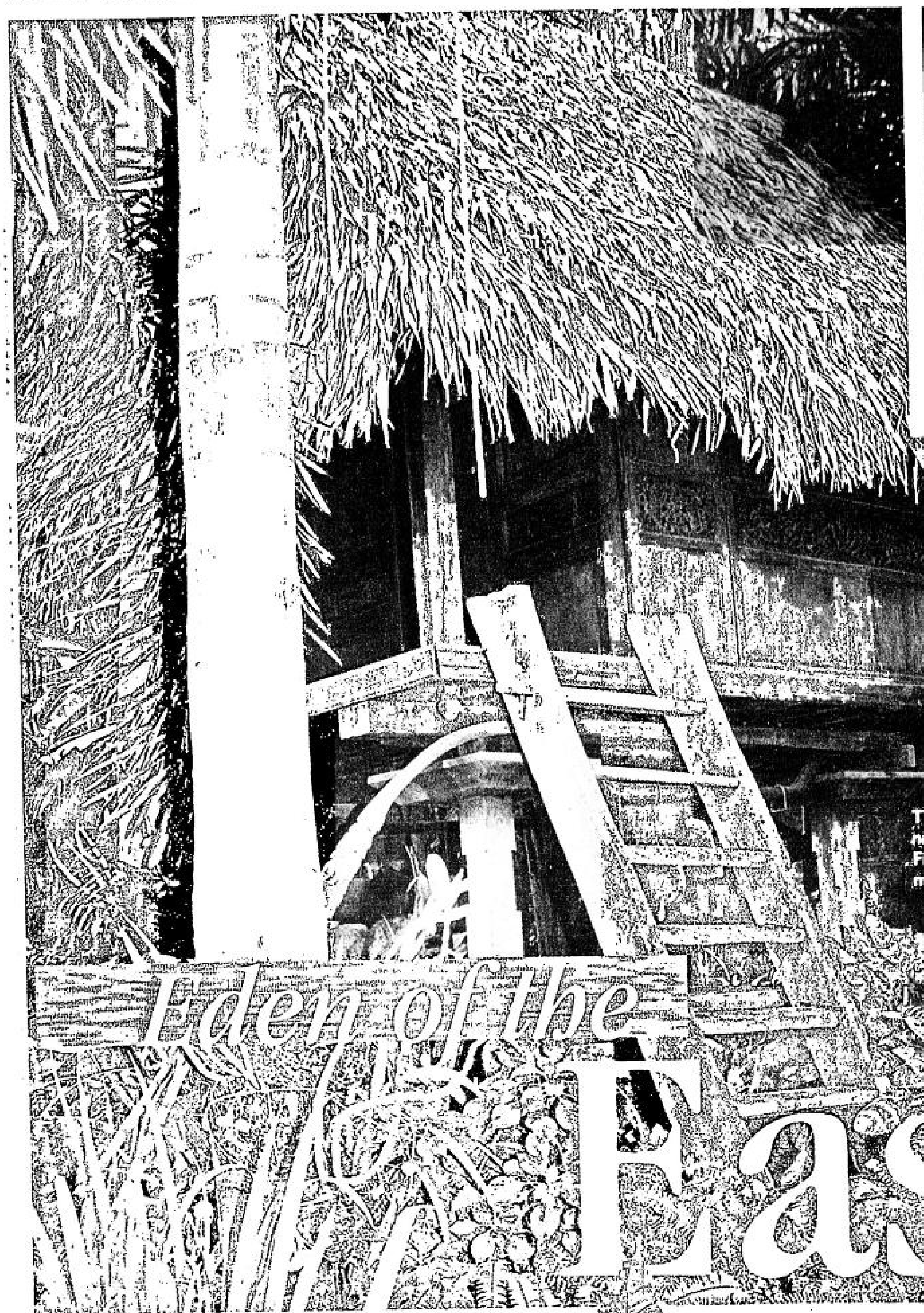
To view our 8 model Mansions and Villas, please call
635-8108 or **636-4647**
www.southforbes.com

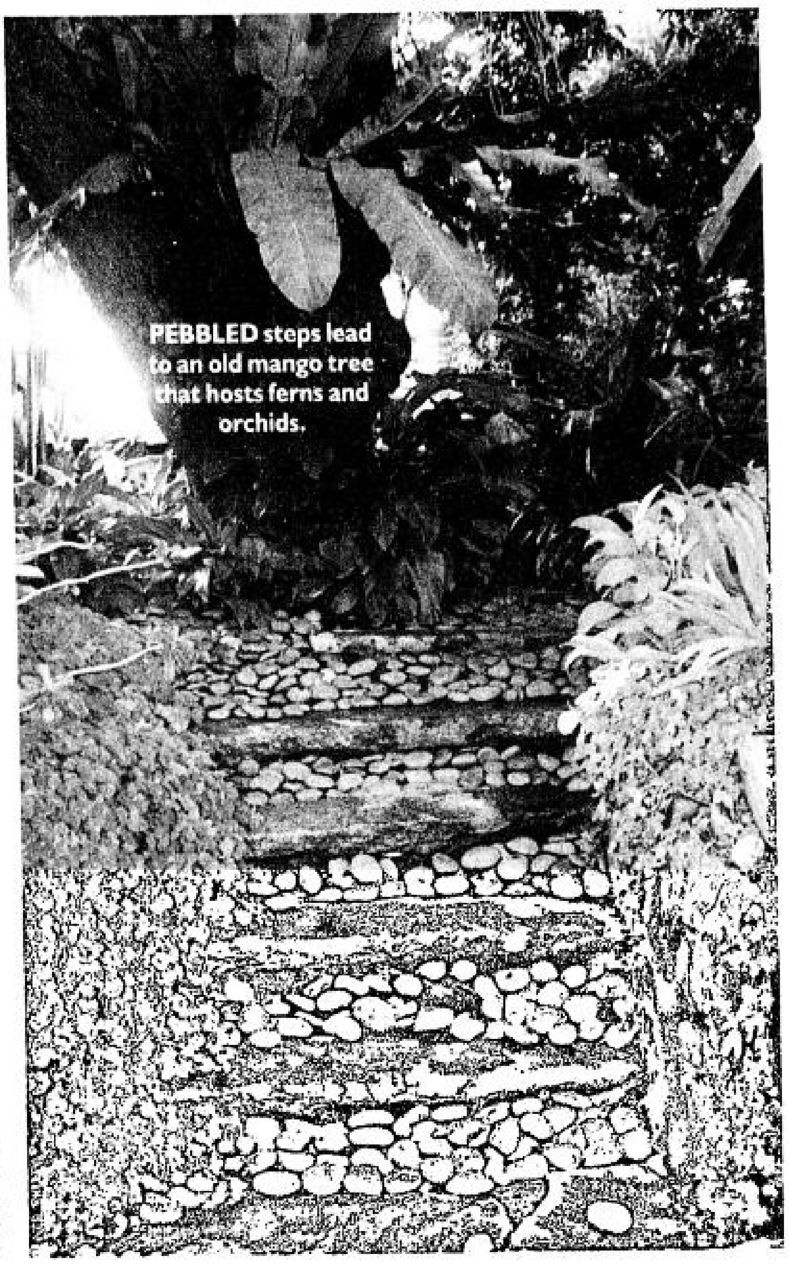
SOUTH FORBES GOLF CITY
THE ALL-IN-ONE CITY

Another Prestige Project of: CATHAY LAND, INC.


AMONG THE TOUCHES of color are these orchid blooms.


GARDEN lamps are hidden behind intricate cases like this.


THE INDONESIAN *nipa* hut, unlike its Filipino counterpart, is made of teak.


PEBBLED steps lead to an old mango tree that hosts ferns and orchids.

Eden of the East

> In strategic places are various stone ornaments, Indonesian and Chinese statues, stylized garden lamps and lahar pieces

Text by Linda B. Bolido
Photos by Betoy Johnson

BROKEN INTO ITS COMPONENTS, the place may seem to have little to brag about in terms of garden variety. The ferns, bamboos, palms, heliconias (cousins of the banana), and aglaonemas are pretty much standard fare in most gardens.

But massed together and cleverly matched and mixed, with unusual accents added and an occasional brilliant bloom stuck in the middle to break a monochromatic collection, the plants have resulted in a garden that has impressed even a fastidious well-known stylist.

The lady of the house, who started assembling this garden four or five years ago, said she was not into creating a showcase with exotic, rare and expensive varieties. All she wanted was a simple, practical, low-maintenance garden with her favorite heliconia tucked into a clump of greenery here and there. The result is a belt of lush, hardy, tropical plants girding a sprawling house.

A BALL made of lahar is almost lost in a sea of green.

Though she sought the assistance of a professional landscaper when she started the project, primarily to build the stone bases for the various plants, the garden is pretty much her handiwork. And, under her direction, it continues to change in subtle ways as she adds new plants, relocate old ones or install new accessories.

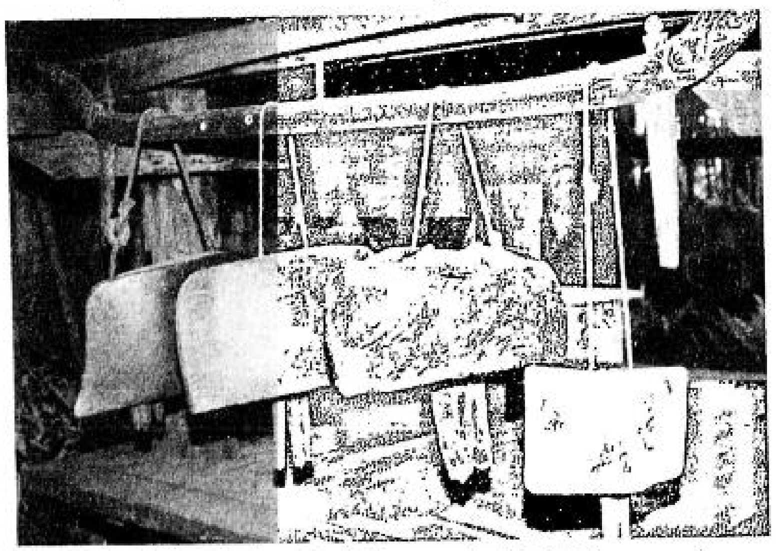
Old fruit trees that came with the property anchor air plants, ferns and a few orchids.

Scattered in strategic places are various stone ornaments, Indonesian and Chinese statues, stylized garden lamps and lahar pieces—everything now nicely covered in moss so that they look almost ancient.

An Indonesian traditional house of teak is the focal point in the back. Old and large cow bells hang from bars under its floor. Almost opposite it, in front of the house, is a wall-less *bahay kubo* where handymen would often enjoy a siesta.

Another prominent accent in the back garden is an Indonesian *banca*, its sides filled with intricate carvings. The *banca*, mounted on two wooden stands, currently serves as a container for some potted plants, though the owner said she was still thinking about some other use for it.

A full-time gardener makes sure the plants and the carabao grass on the lawn have sufficient water every day, that everything is neat and trim, and dried leaves are gathered up to go into a compost heap that produces the fertilizer that is used in the plants.


LARGE traditional oriental bells hang under the floor of the Indonesian hut.

AN INDONESIAN *banca* temporarily serves as a planter.

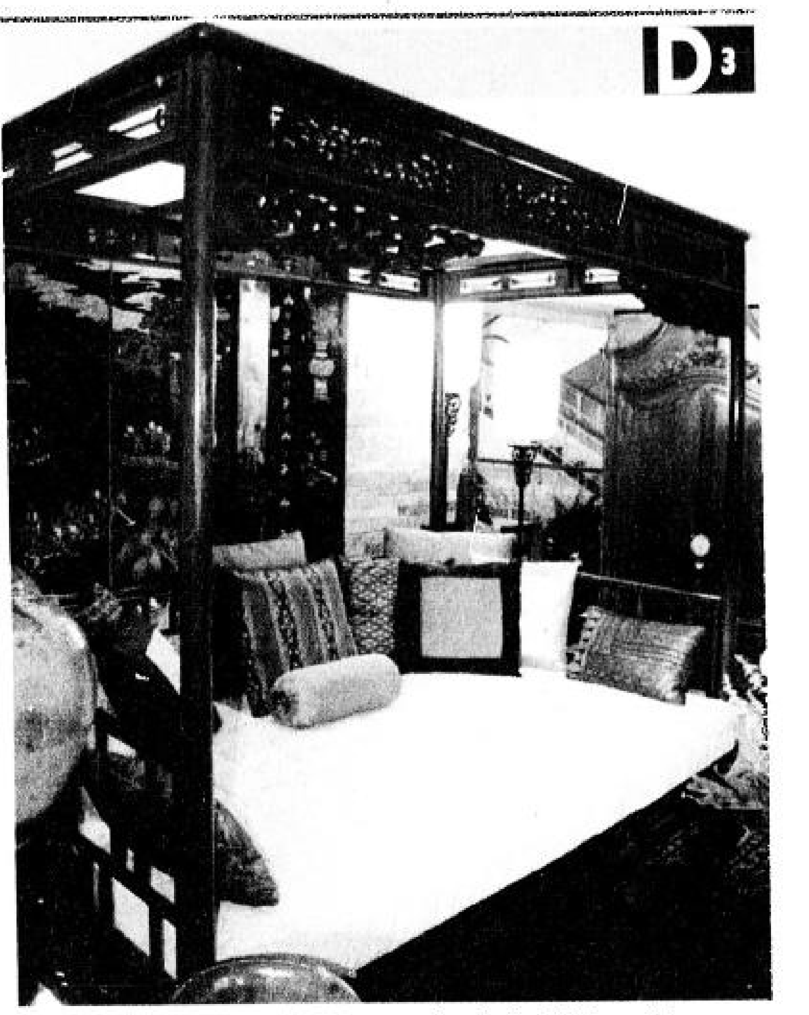
SHELTERED by an awning, three Chinese sculptures manage to look newer than the other pieces.

A BLOOMING ground orchid relieves the monochromatic color scheme of moss-covered statues, bamboo and fern.

KAMAGONG chairs guard the double French doors that lead to the garden. The old chest in the middle is decorated with antique statuettes of San Antonio and Magdalena.

WEAPONS OF DECOR: Tops from Mindanao used to slay wild animals in the olden days

IMANI COLLECTION. Layout is essential to create balance and function to a space.



LAP OF LUXURY. This old Chinese opium bed, dolled up with handwoven silk throw pillows from just about everywhere, feels right at home in the living room.

Always Asian

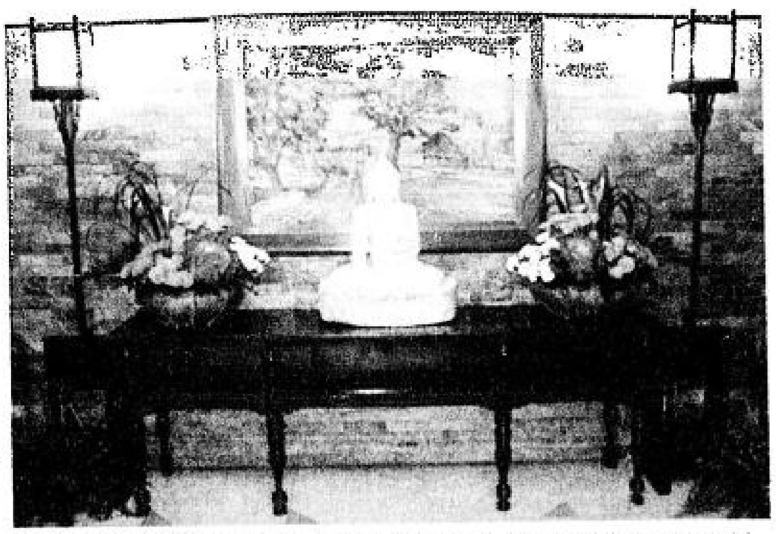
From page D1

space. There are the rare Chinese mini chairs for the grandchildren, antique Filipino water jars from the south, a Chinese tea table of chicken feather wood, a Korean rice chest. On the coffee table is a fascinating collection of big, heavy tops from Mindanao inlaid with silver. Mapa says these tops were weapons used to slay large wild animals during hunting trips.

From the den, a door opens to the living area. Up against a wall is a Chinese opium bed dolled up with throw pillows acquired from just about everywhere in the world.

"My grandchildren might find it enjoyable to play around in that area," she says.

Every Sunday is family day, she says. All children and grandchildren are expected to partake of the traditional family weekend feast. Mapa, however, is firm about the rules: No horsing around and no touching of any object. Thankfully, the young ones have grown accustomed to the delicate articles of Mapa's very Asian world and they behave accordingly.



TRANQUILITY. The goddess Kuan Yin, from Thailand, sits on an old Filipino altar table.

The leather sofa set, located in front of the opium bed, has a long slab of narra coffee table by Osmundo Esguerra. On it are a couple of Indian hurricane lamps, crystals from Sweden, a sizeable silver pumpkin ornament and an early sculpture of a monk in rest.

A prized possession is the large 92.5-percent sterling silver bowl that weighs in at a hefty 7 kg and is worth almost P500,000. Depending on need and occasion, the pricey bowl is used to hold champagnes, beers, wines or flowers. It is Mapa's dictum that a home should never be without flowers.

Mapa likes mixing the old with the new, hence the modern crystals strategically placed alongside unique, old objects. Coordination is very important, she says, that each layout is useful as well. A coffee table, for instance, must also have room for platters when serving canapés to visitors or pica-pica to grandchildren.

For a relaxing breakfast, Mapa and her retired husband, fondly known as Toto, prefer to have food served in the atrium. Designed by landscape artist Ponce Veridiano, the wrought-iron garden set at the center is surrounded by greens, a mini-waterfall and lighted floating candles.

The dining area has the most expensive item in Mapa's home: a 12-seater, P1-million dining table made of solid narra framed by *balayong*. It was obtained from an antique dealer in the Quezon Province.

Celadon

The dinnerware is set in blue celadon instead of the usual green. The Christofle flatware is from France, the fruit bowl decorated with flower arrangement, from Turkey. Creativity takes over as incense holders from China are transformed into candleholders, and betel-nut holders from Thailand into napkin holders.

FRESH. The Contreras garden set adds warmth to the lush environment.

SIZE MATTERS. The 7-kg sterling silver holds anything from beer to champagne to flowers.

"You can make an item functional as long as you don't ruin the aesthetics," Mapa says.

The double French doors open to the garden where a delightful four-seater Contreras sculpture is perfect for afternoon *meriendas*.

Collecting antiques is a costly hobby, but Mapa says it is a good investment.

"I have been living like this for quite a while now. I do not find my home extravagant or showy. I think it's very livable," she says.

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

Wood *to the wise*

From page D8

Filipino-American and proud of it. He was exploring the possibility of retiring someday in the Philippines two years ago when he hit upon the idea of expanding his business across the Pacific.

"Retiring doesn't really mean selling my business and living here for good," says Alejo. "I just want to spend more time here and at the same time realize my dream of becoming an international company."

Environmentalists need not worry. No narra trees and other fast-disappearing varieties of local hardwood will be felled in the process, as Floor Station and its partners log primarily from the forests of Brazil and Canada.

These companies reportedly adhere to sustainable development and responsible logging by replacing trees they've cut.

"When you choose a hardwood flooring company, you're not just investing in the future of your home but also in the future of the planet," says Alejo. "You should know how the wood was harvested and how it is to be replaced."

Filipinos, he adds, are now designing on a global scale. That's why Floor Station has taken it upon itself to educate professionals as well as consumers on the importance of sustainability and better—and often cheaper—alternatives to local hardwood.

Long warranty

Alejo stands by the quality of his floors, so much so that they come with a 25-year warranty. To ensure proper installation, people at Floor Station do the work themselves. An American expert from the company's LA office recently visited Manila to train his Filipino colleagues.

Floor Station is reportedly the only provider of wood and laminated flooring in the Philippines that uses laser equipment during installation. Apart from eliminating dirt and noise, such precision-cutting tools ensure quality and consistency during and after the installation process.

It may be the company's first foray in a country as hot and as humid as the Philippines, but people behind it have had plenty of practice while working on projects in tropical places like Florida and Brazil.

While Alejo deals most of the time with interior designers and architects, there were a few times he was privileged enough to talk directly with a number of famous clients.

One of his most memorable encounters was with one of America's living legends. Streisand dropped by his LA showroom four months ago to discuss her flooring requirements over tea with Alejo.

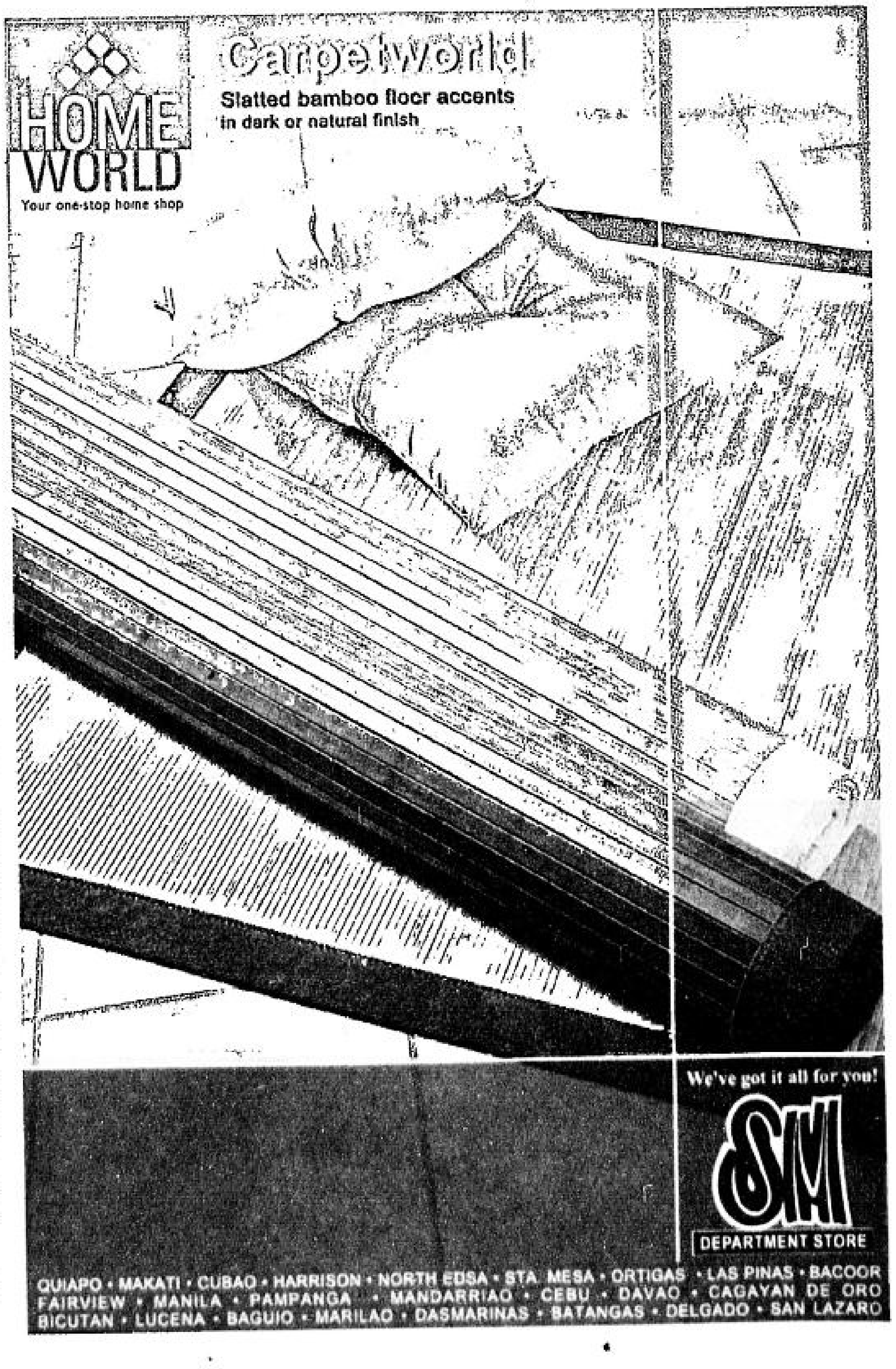
The superstar was having one of her houses (there are eight structures) in her sprawling Malibu estate renovated after a particularly nasty mudslide ruined the property's oak floor last year. She wanted an exact replica of the original floor, which included a Chinese-inspired medallion.

"She's so humble and unassuming," says Alejo of Streisand. "We're now working on the barn room, which is actually an entire house. We had to take all the mud off before we could start replacing the oak floor with a new one."

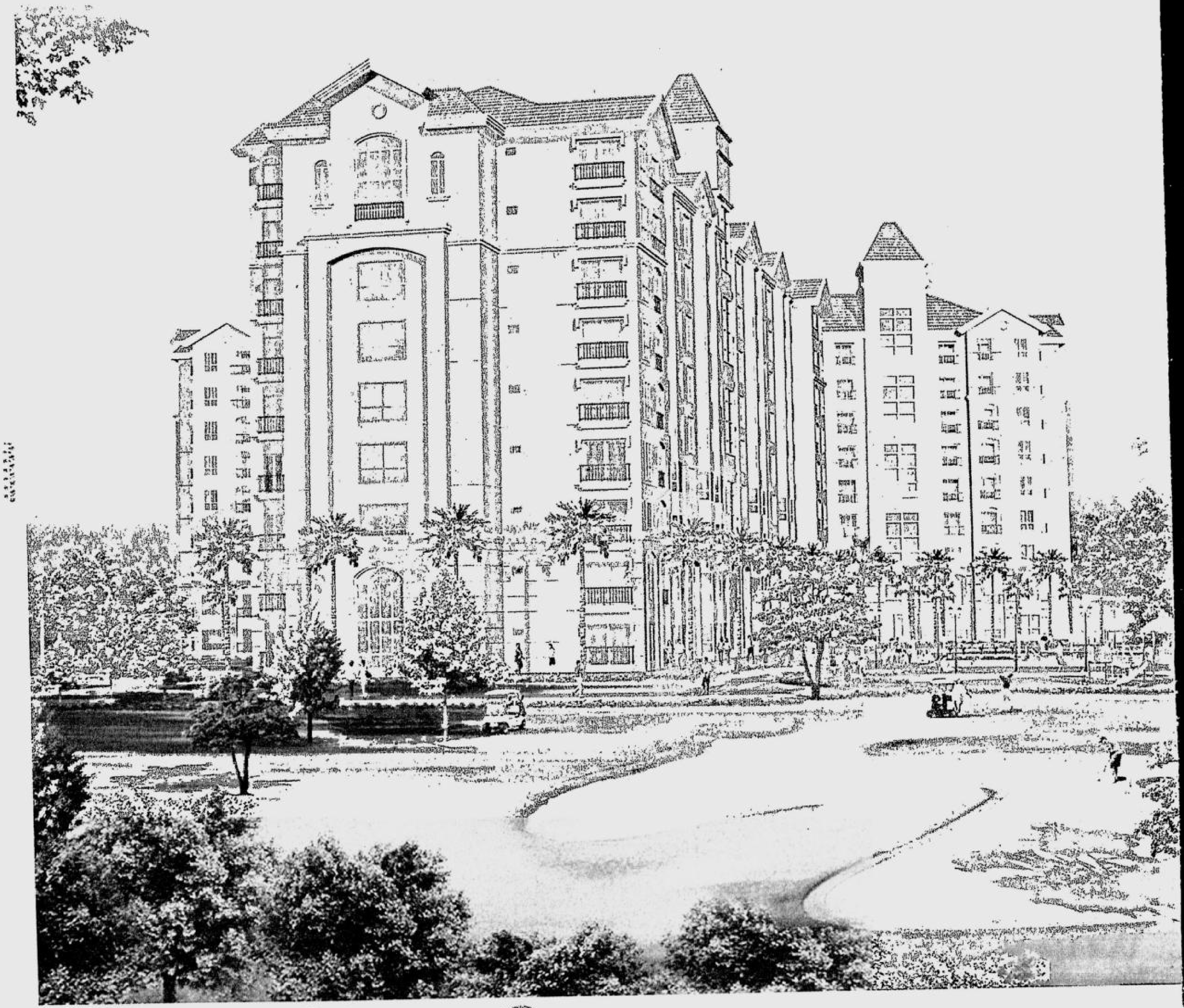
And the work perhaps includes the ground Streisand walks on in the powder room.

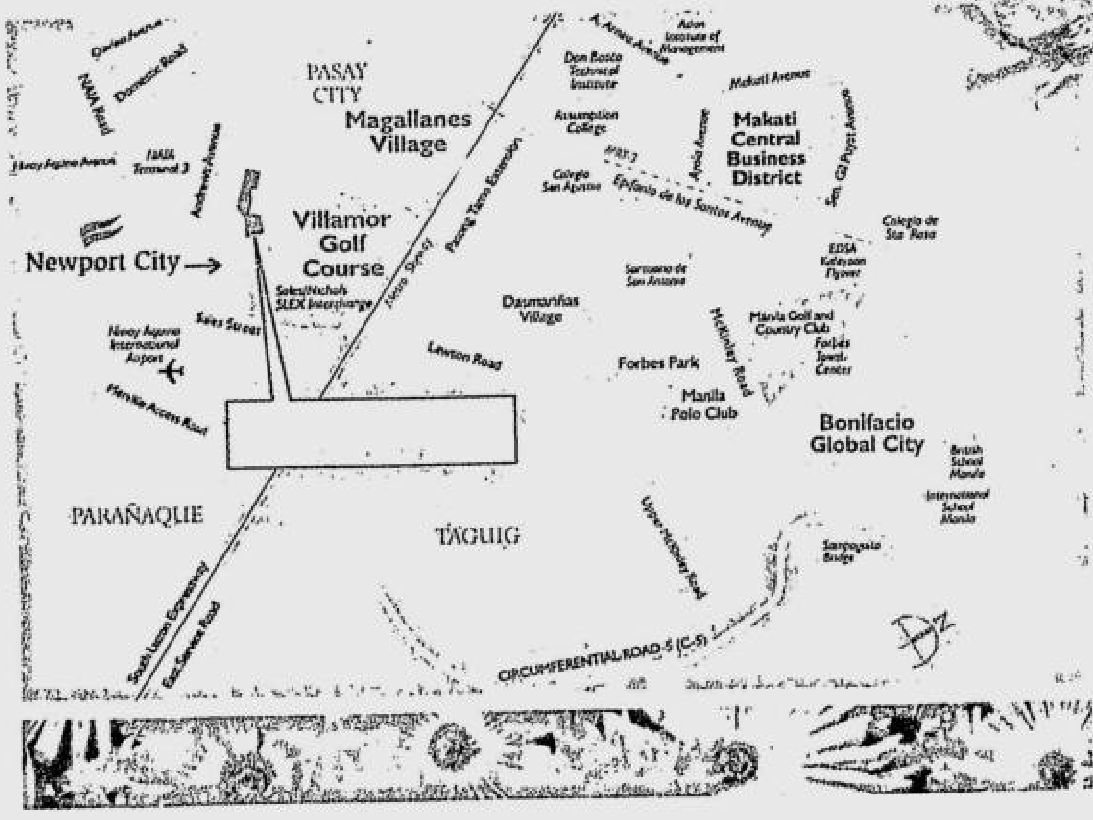
E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

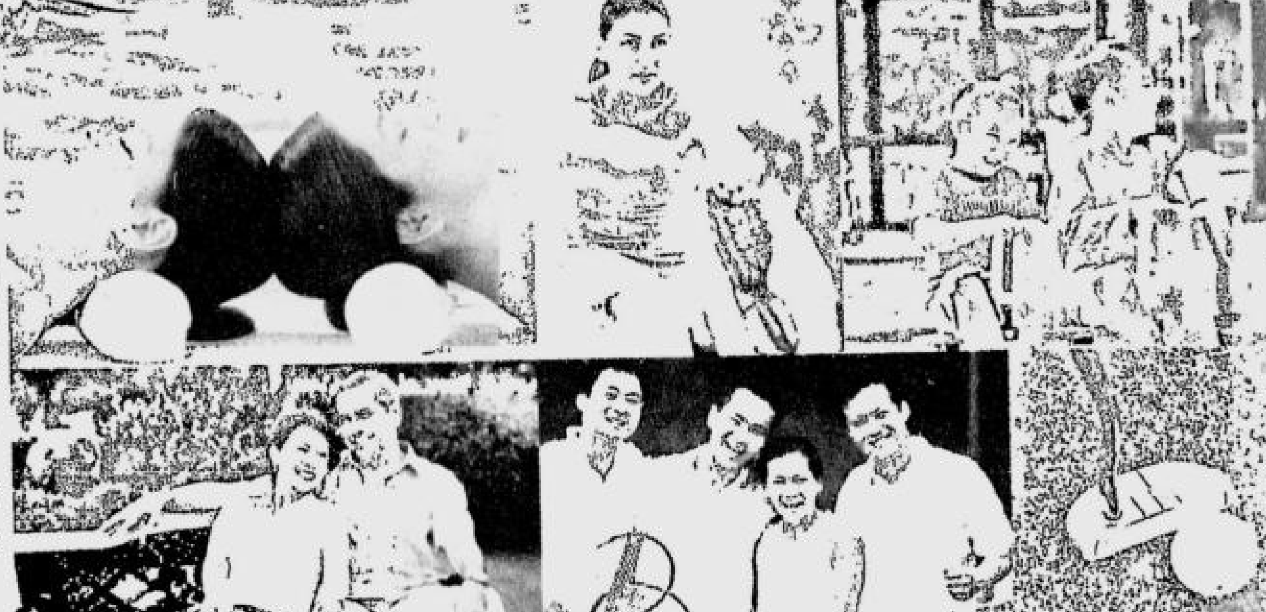
APART from the warmth it brings, wood and wood-veneer floors are versatile and give off a luxurious feel.


HOME WORLD
Your one-stop home shop
Carpetworld
Slatted bamboo floor accents
in dark or natural finish
We've got it all for you!
SM
DEPARTMENT STORE
QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PINAS • BACOOR
FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • MANDARRIAO • CEBU • DAVAO • CAGAYAN DE ORO
BICUTAN • LUCENA • BAGUIO • MARILAO • DASMARINAS • BATANGAS • DELGADO • SAN LAZARO

The Resort Experience.




PASAY CITY
Magallanes Village
Villamor Golf Course
Newport City →
NAIA Road
Domestic Road
NAIA Terminal 3
Andrews Avenue
Sales/Nichols SLEX Interchange
Sales Street
Ninoy Aquino International Airport
Manila Access Road
Arnaiz Avenue
Asian Institute of Management
Don Bosco Technical Institute
Makati Avenue
Assumption College
Ayala Avenue
Makati Central Business District
Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue
Colegio San Agustin
Epifanio de los Santos Avenue
Colegio de Sta. Rosa
EDSA Kalayaan Flyover
Santuario de San Antonio
Dasmariñas Village
Lawton Road
Manila Golf and Country Club
Forbes Sports Center
Forbes Park
McKinley Road
Manila Polo Club
Bonifacio Global City
British School Manila
International School Manila
PARAÑAQUE
TAGUIG
Upper McKinley Road
Sampaguita Bridge
South Luzon Expressway
East Service Road
CIRCUMFERENTIAL ROAD 5 (C-5)



Own this 2-bedroom unit for as low as ₱23,000 a month.

Meet in a five-star hotel • Play golf • Unwind in a spa • Work out
Dine on East-West cuisine • Shop and play
• Experience it all in a resort-in-the-city that is your home •

Sarasota

The newest phase of

The Residential Resort at Newport City

The Metro's First and Only Luxury Resort Residences

Gozar Street, Newport City, Pasay City

Live everyday a fresh new way, with a feeling of adventure and fun, in your home within a resort. Right next to...

the ***Marriott Hotel...***

Where you can experience five-star luxury any time of day. Here, 350 elegantly appointed rooms are matched by business centers and luxurious leisure amenities.

the ***Villamor Golf Course...***

A championship-level playground for golf aficionados. Tee off in the 60-hectare, 18-hole, par-72 green. Non-golfers can enjoy front-row views of the sprawling landscape.

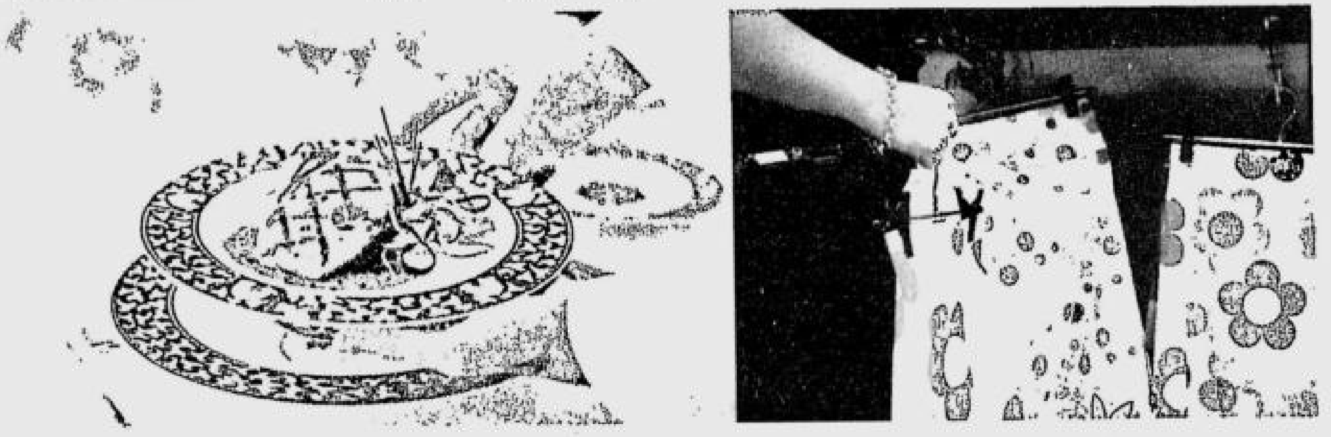
a luxurious indoor ***Spa...***

Where you can unwind amid top-notch therapeutic facilities, heat and exercise pools and aromatherapy and massage rooms.

a modern ***Fitness Center...***

The whole family will enjoy hours of healthy recreation with first-rate amenities including a gym, adult and children's swimming pools, tennis and badminton courts and landscaped play areas.

and a themed ***Dining, Shopping and Entertainment Complex.***



Explore a streetscape of international restaurants, stylish boutiques and alfresco cafés with live performances—all within walking distance from home.

At Sarasota, discover the privileges of living close to nature in a Mediterranean-style resort setting inspired by Lake Las Vegas. Choose from an executive studio, 1-bedroom or 2-bedroom home, with wide windows and balconies.

The elegant, earth-toned residential buildings are no more than 9 stories high, so air can flow freely. Each building boasts its own lobby and ample basement parking. Aside from a guarded entrance gate, a tree-lined perimeter fence encloses the entire community. The interior roads are wide and made safe for children.

And the homes are clustered around the play amenities, making it easy for neighbors to get together at the lap pool, putting green, fitness station or tennis court. Or at the sitting area and the aviary with benches. Children, too, will enjoy hours of fun in their own pool and play areas.

Have a taste of the unique resort experience at Sarasota.
Join us on **March 19, Sunday, 9 AM to 5 PM,**
at the **Newport City Grand Showroom.**

Exclusive Marketing Arm:

Megaworld Newport
Property Holdings, Inc.

Newport City Information Centre, Newport City, Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines
(632) 855-7580 • 855-7583 • 855-7594 • 855-7586

For Announcement Purposes Only

IN OFF-WHITE finish, the Gavan four-poster bed is simplicity with a touch of Old-World grandness.

WITH THE SHINE of capiz, the Monterey coffee table is a showcase of exotic *gemilina wood patterns.*

BLACK iron round bars, in hourglass shape, make up the Namur accent table, a study in symmetry.

Sense and symmetry

To Eric Paras, gardener, interior designer and furniture maker, all creative efforts are a work of balance

By AA Patawaran
Contributor
Photos by Chito Vecina

A CHAIR IS JUST A CHAIR, but in its rightful place in a room, it forms an inalienable part of your living or working space. After all, what is a home without chairs? What is an office without a place to sit on behind a desk? In some instances, what is a park without a bench?

This is where Eric T. Paras makes his point as a product designer. His designs are made in the context of the space in which they are likely to be, which is why his showroom is no less than his own house.

The house is located in a cluster of old houses, including A11 gallery, where Paras' collaborative works with Vienna Furniture's Randy Viray were recently on display.

It helps that Paras has spent 10 years of his young life mastering interior design. "I am really just an accidental furniture designer," he admits. "I was only asked by a friend to do a few pieces for a show in Mimosa and that was how it all started."

It might have been destiny. His Prada cabinet in fire-engine red, one of the bestsellers of his maiden collection three years ago, has launched a new career for the interior designer. Still, in coming up with product design, Paras keeps his first love in mind, always creating in the context of actual homes, offices, or even gardens.

"I don't like it when any of my pieces looks perfect in the showroom and out of place once the buyer takes it home," he says.

No wonder there is something very homey about his recent works. His collaboration with Viray, which he calls Modern Nostalgia, has all the European sensibilities of chipped wood and rain-drenched finishes. Always considerate of his end-users, Paras attributes the character of his current collection to the demands of buyers in Europe, particularly Spain and France, where Vienna Furniture markets its products.

ERIC Paras

Equilibrium

"I try not to be the star of my work," explains Paras. "I always keep in mind that it is others who will live with it once I put it out there in the market."

But this market-oriented designer has his own distinct spin on things. His keen observation of design evolution keeps him abreast with the latest in trends and technology. Defining himself as "a modernist who is in love with tradition," Paras has come up with work after work that is very now, mastering the trick of anchoring his work in a delicate spot between past and future.

To Eric, culture is always part of the buying decision. He observes, for instance, that while Americans love it perfect, Europeans tend to go for a bit of a worn-out look in furniture.

"The Europeans, in many ways, are very traditional while the Americans are more experimental," he says, explaining that the former is always looking for a sense of the Old World.

Paras' artistry, like his own personality, is a study in symmetry. The Savanna Tete-a-Tete chair in worn black finish, though not linear, formal or stiff, is a work of balance, like two separate chairs brought together in yin-and-yang fashion. Even in his Namur accent table, maintaining equilibrium seems to be the design imperative, with black iron bars swirling up in the shape of an hourglass to keep the whole structure steady.

In Paras' world, however, it's not always hip to be square. His Panno floor lamp, for instance, is actually a recreation of the tri-pod made of tobacco-finished *gemilina* wood, a family of Philippine mahogany that is the material *du jour* of his recent collection.

Luxurious

Like Christian Liaigre, one of his design idols, Paras' materials are luxuriously authentic. It explains his predilection for such techniques as the two-process lamination, which brings out the natural patterns or texture of wood. His Monterey coffee table displays this fondness for the exotic, along with his experimentation with *pizzara* finishing, which gives surfaces a certain effect, as though they have been exposed to light rain.

As a furniture designer, Paras knows he has to stay alert to the vicissitudes of fashion, his classical orientation notwithstanding. It is for this reason, as well as his insatiable desire to see as much of the world as he can, that every now and then he finds himself in places like Paris, where he feels it is best to spot trends.

He believes it is the ability to merge influences from other countries with his appreciation and understanding of his own culture and country that a Filipino designer like him can carve a niche in the face of globalization.

Nevertheless, he laments the lack of government support that is crucial to the Philippines' survival and success in the world of design. "We have an abundance of talent," says Paras. "But here you're on your own."

Garden-inspired

Even his background as a creative spirit is rooted in the home. Somehow he shares something in common with his other creative idol, Dutch celebrity Marcel Wolterinck. While Wolterinck owes his interior design career to horticulture, Paras owes his to gardening.

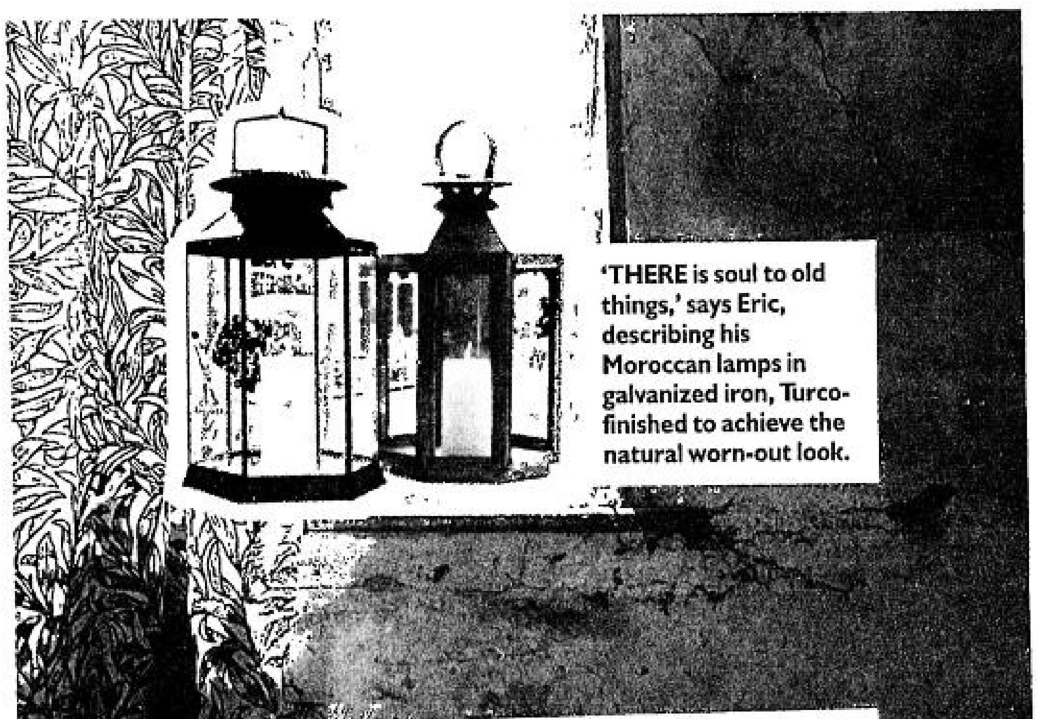
"From childhood, I have been fascinated with gardens," says the designer, whose house-cum-showroom features a miniature pond at the entrance with a frog perched on a leaf in the center. Water springs upward and lands on the lip of the frog to produce the mating call of frogs on rainy days.

Sitting on his wooden bench out on his front yard is to be transported back to Paras' good old days in Pampanga, where houses had sprawling gardens with ponds and frogs in them.

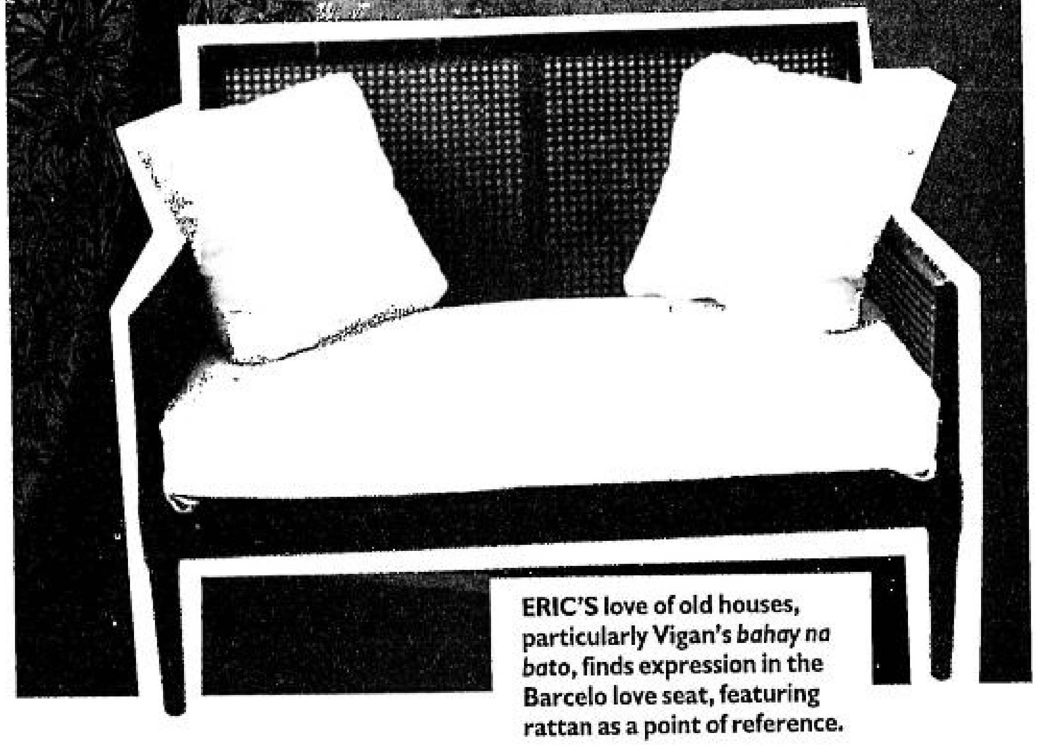
No wonder the elements of nature are often incorporated in his pieces, whether in the Schuster extension table whose light oil-stain finish gives the effect of sun exposure, or again in the Monterey coffee table and its rain-drenched effect.

Practically all his pieces will work well in houses where the outdoors are integral to the interiors. On the other hand, where the outdoors are out of reach, Paras' work will provide a sense of hominess as though a garden is just a wall away.

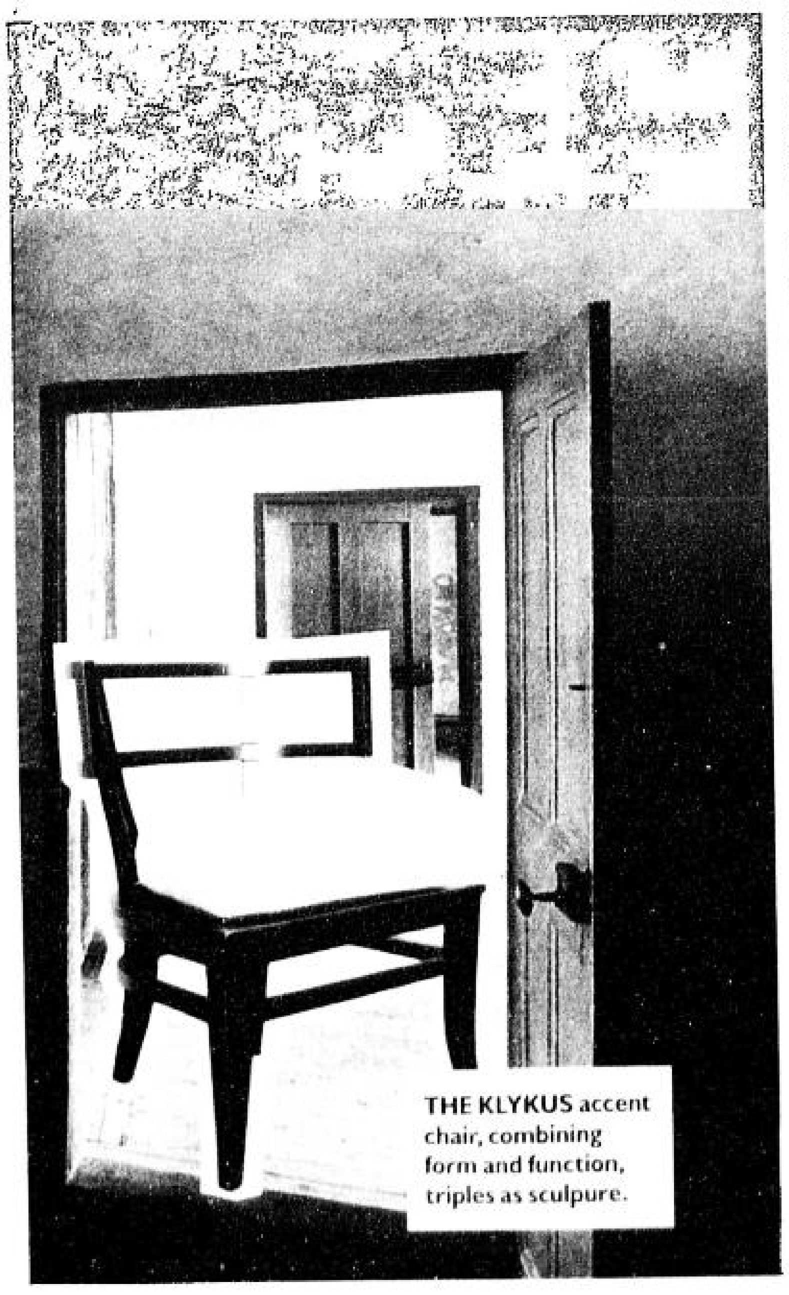
Eric T. Paras' showroom is at 2680 F. B Harrison Street, Pasay City. Call (632) 8329972 or e-mail a_eleven05@yahoo.com



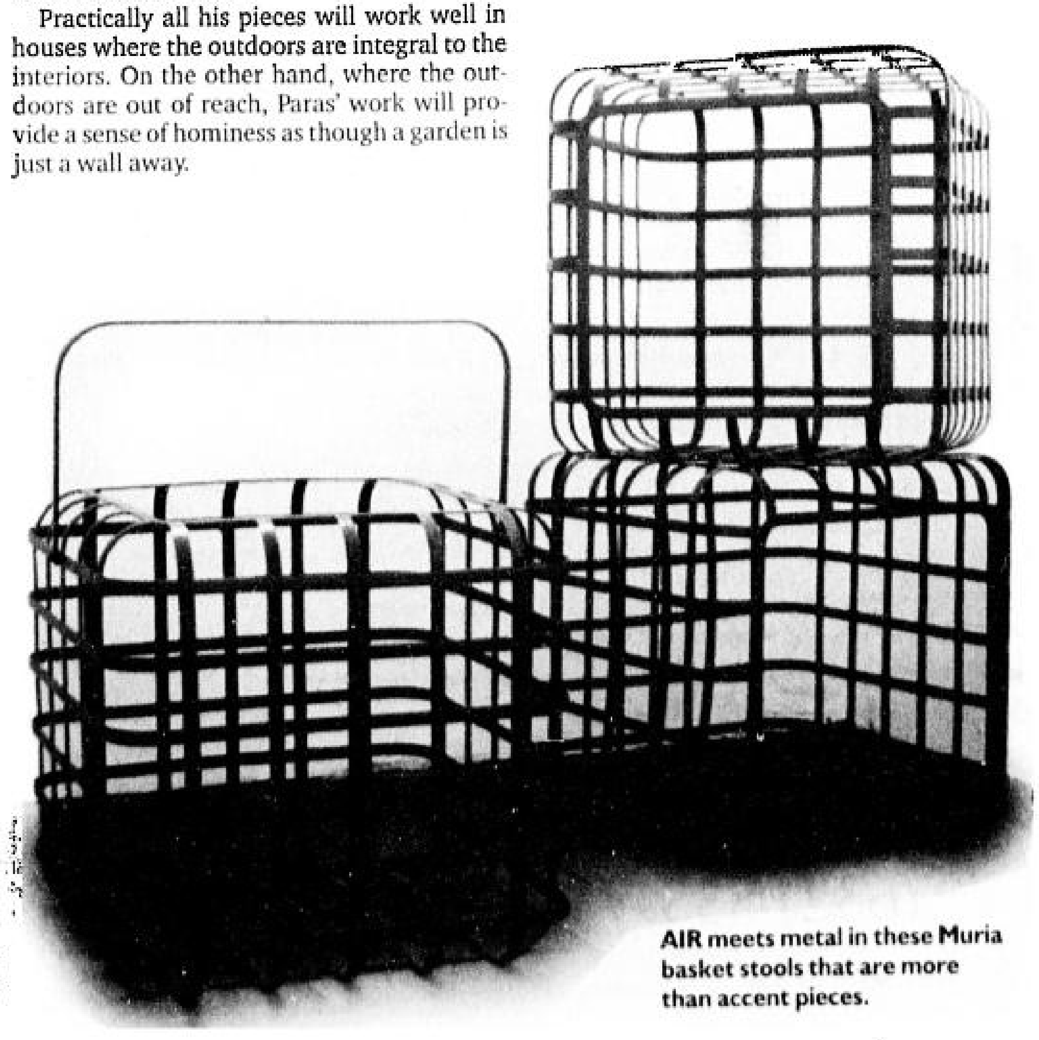
'THERE is soul to old things,' says Eric, describing his Moroccan lamps in galvanized iron, Turco-finished to achieve the natural worn-out look.



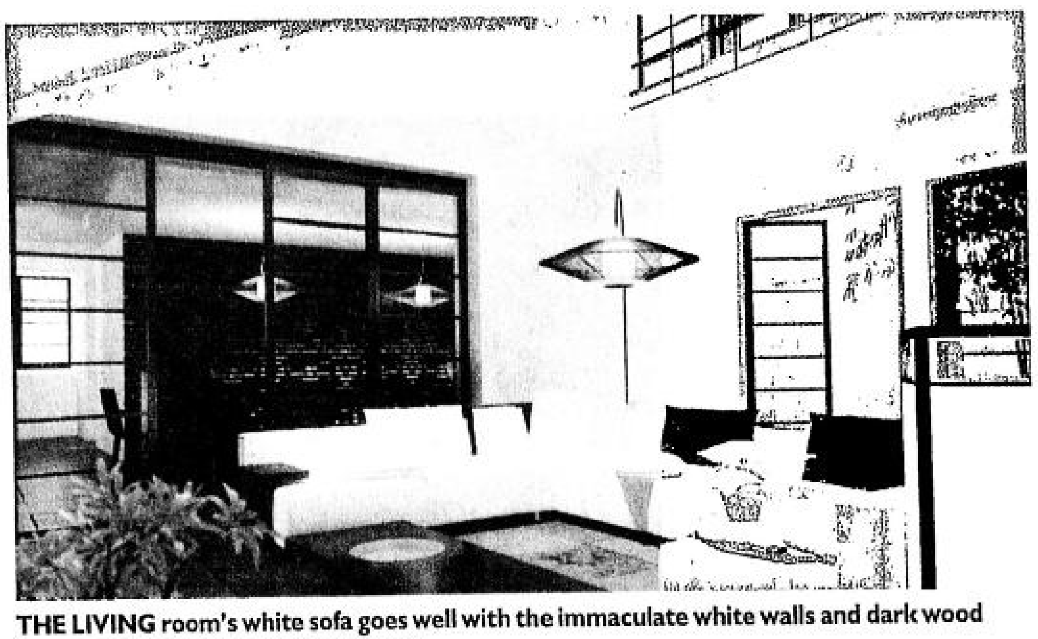
ERIC'S love of old houses, particularly Vigan's *bahay na bato*, finds expression in the Barcelo love seat, featuring rattan as a point of reference.



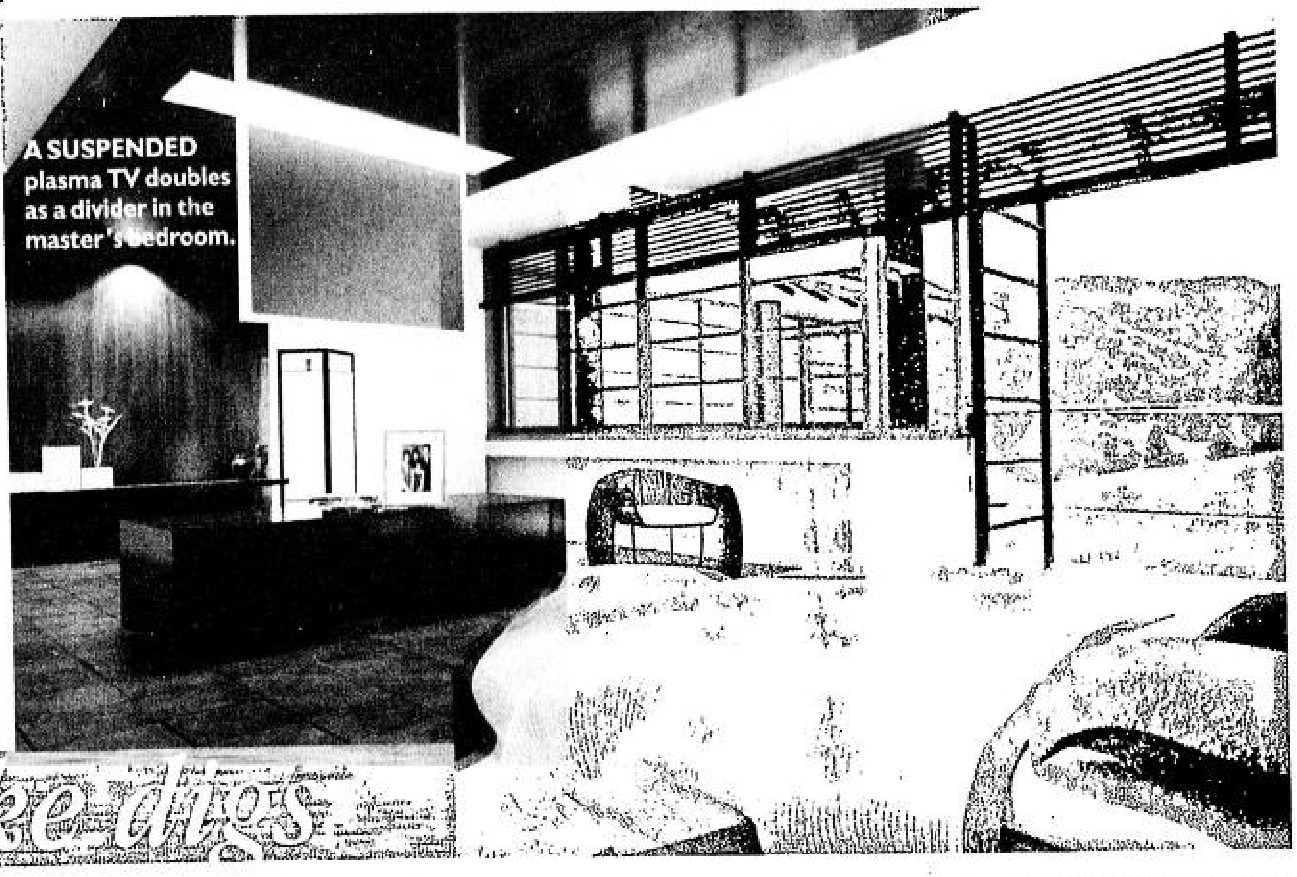
THE KLYKUS accent chair, combining form and function, triples as sculpture.



AIR meets metal in these Muria basket stools that are more than accent pieces.



THE LIVING room's white sofa goes well with the immaculate white walls and dark wood frames of the floor-to-ceiling windows.



A SUSPENDED plasma TV doubles as a divider in the master's bedroom.

Trendy Tokyo-like digs

THE TRENDSETTING atmosphere of Tokyo and its essence as a barometer of world fashion are captured in the Tokyo Mansions interiors as conceptualized by top interior designers Ivy and Cynthia Almario.

"We will translate trendy Tokyo into Tokyo Mansions interiors with the use of a variety of sculptural pieces that will double as furniture and art pieces," says Cynthia.

The living room of the Meiji Model Mansion features a Minotti-style white sofa that goes well with the immaculate white walls and contrasts with the dark wood frames of the floor-to-ceiling windows.

Modern woven Asian lamps are used as accent pieces in the dining room, which features a wenge perforated wall with backlighting for a luminous effect. From the living room, view of the line of tall bamboos gives a rural ambiance to this modern home.

The master's bedroom features a suspended plasma TV which doubles as a divider. A freeform woven chair and accent lamp give it a trendy look. The main luxury, though, is the master's bathroom with its own Jacuzzi, his and hers lavatories, and spacious walk-in closets. Glass on all walls give the bathroom a sense of bigger space.

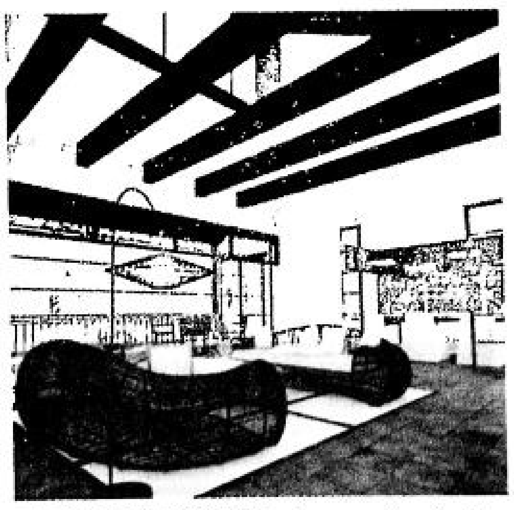
The interiors of the Yamato are just as trendy. The living room prominently displays croissant sofas inspired by the collection of Filipino designer Kenneth Cobonpue. A clerestory window allows natural lighting throughout the day. Oversized, geometric chairs fit well in the dining room, where circular lamps seem to hang by threads from the ceiling.

The master's bedroom features a Zen bed, a modern chair and oversized lamps as accent pieces for the headboard. Wooden lattices are featured on the top portions of the floor-to-ceiling glass walls, which give commanding views of the clubhouse and the Yamato's infinity pool. Simple drapes, meanwhile, provide a sense of privacy.

Overall, the design of the Tokyo Mansions suits sophisticated home buyers who desire a daily spiritual retreat every time they get back from a day's work. Tokyo Mansions residents also get free golf membership in the world-class, 18-hole South Forbes Golf Club designed by Asia's leading golf course designer, International Management Group (IMG).

South Forbes' inclusion in the exclusive golf club of IMG SportsClub means preferred access and discounted rates in 42 world-class golf courses worldwide. Get that chance to make a birdie putt at the Nirwana Bali Golf Club in the tropical paradise of Bali. Or try to score a hole-in-one at San Francisco's prestigious Presidio Golf Course.

For a private preview of Tokyo Mansions and its trendy interiors, call 6358108/6364647 or visit www.southforbes.com



CROISSANT-SHAPED sofas were inspired by the collection of Filipino designer Kenneth Cobonpue.

A ZEN BED, a modern chair and oversized lamps are the main features of this bedroom.

BRENTVILLE
International Community

My five-year old can say "Hello" in six languages.

HLURB LTS No. R4-99030032

2005 MOST OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

All images are actual photos taken from the s

Who says one language is enough for your child?
At Brentville, let your child enjoy a lifestyle of cultural diversity and luxury in a fully-developed community.

- Home to Brent International School
- Ideally situated and just a 10-minute drive from Alabang and 30 minutes from Makati
- World-class facilities including underground power and communication system
- 24-hour, 3-level security protocol
- Existing and thriving international community

Honored by:
Philippine Marketing Excellence Awards Institute
National Consumer Affairs Foundation (NCAF)
Yearender Excellence Awards Committee

PROMINENCE II townhouses
KASSANDRA house model
MAIN CLUBHOUSE and POOL

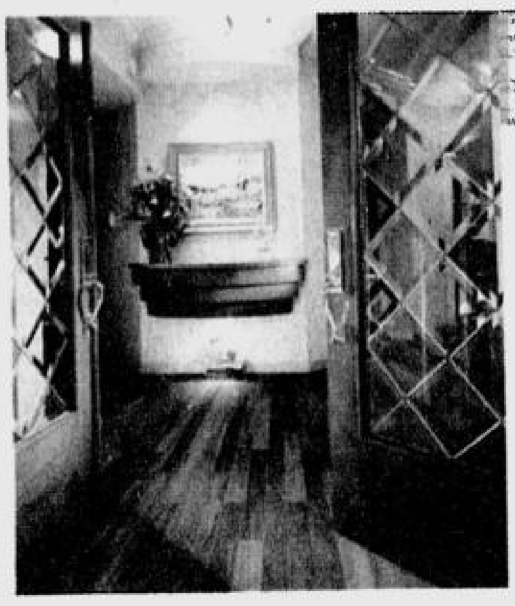
How to get there: Brentville International is only 10 minutes away from Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang. From the South Luzon Expressway, take the Mamplasan Exit, turn left from the toll gate and you will find Brentville International.

Lots at P9,500* per square meter

Call 807 55[illegible] / 807 6907

FILINVEST
INVEST ON SOLID GROUND

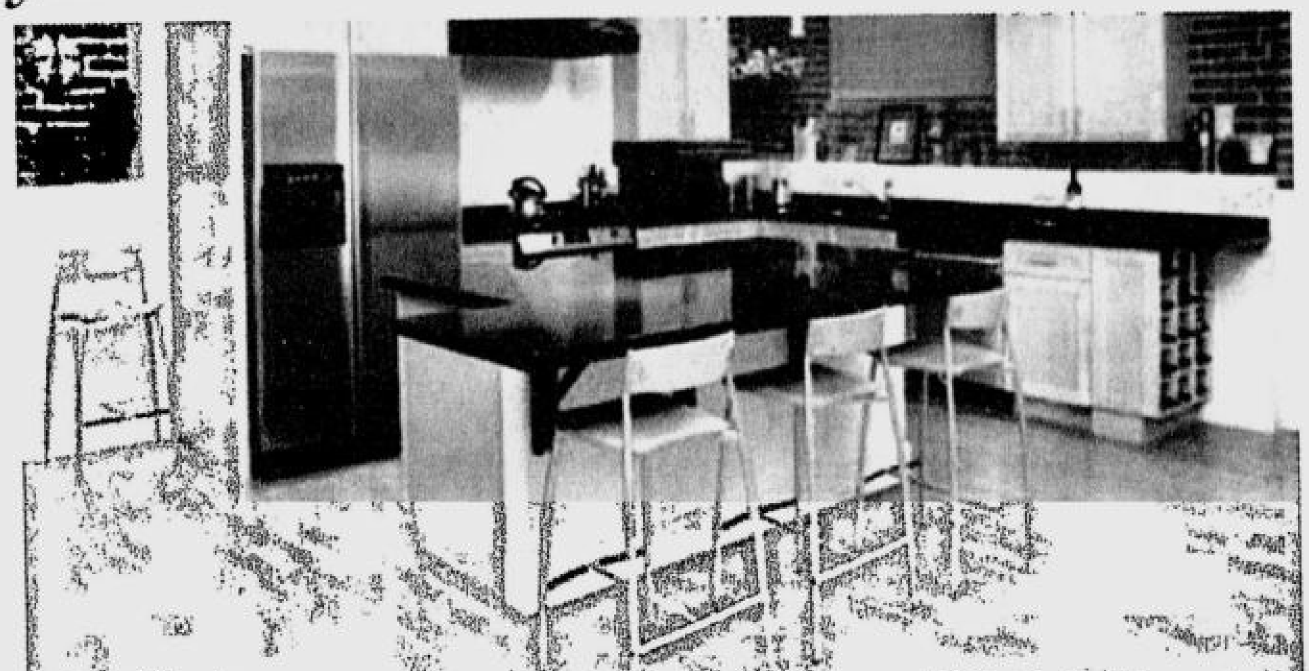
www.brentville.com



THE WARMTH wood brings is often unmatched by other flooring materials.

The man who installed wooden flooring in the homes of Hollywood celebrities has opened his first showroom in Manila

Wood *to the wise*



NOT just for the living room and private spaces anymore, wood flooring is increasingly being used for the kitchen these days, sometimes even the bathroom.

By Alex Y. Vergara

WOODEN FLOORS NEED not be limited to your receiving area and private spaces. In the United States, for instance, there's a growing preference among homeowners to go for wooden floors, from the living room all the way to the dining area, kitchen, bedrooms and even bathroom.

It doesn't matter whether you go for laminated (faux wood made of high-density fiberboard) or the real thing, as long as the wooden floor is treated with aluminum oxide it can reportedly withstand even the wettest environment. Perhaps even inside a shower stall!

Apart from acting as a sealant to ward off scratches and the effects of water and weather, aluminum oxide imparts the wood with a satin sheen that renders floor wax, floor polishers and the lowly coconut husk (*bunot*) superfluous.

Forget polyurethane. Aluminum oxide is a newer and reportedly better alternative to the older process of protecting and enhancing the appearance of wood and laminated floors.

Filipino architects, interior designers and homeowners interested in aluminum oxide-treated floors—from maple to pecan, cherry to hickory, pine to oak—need not go to the US to buy them.

If they want the same flooring found in the homes of Hollywood celebrities Barbra Streisand, Harrison Ford, Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg, all they have to do is visit the very first showroom of Floor Station, Inc. in Manila.

A Los Angeles-based company that's reportedly the biggest manufacturer and supplier of flooring materials in the West Coast (with offices and showrooms in eight states), Floor Station, Inc. recently opened at unit 805 of the Tycoon Center on Pearl Drive in Ortigas Center (tel. 7171396 and 6366855).

On top of its factory in Mexico, which manufactures bamboo flooring under the brand name Pacific Rim, Floor Station also carries some of the biggest and most prestigious floor brands in the US such as Anderson, Wilsonart and Armstrong.

Beautiful, durable

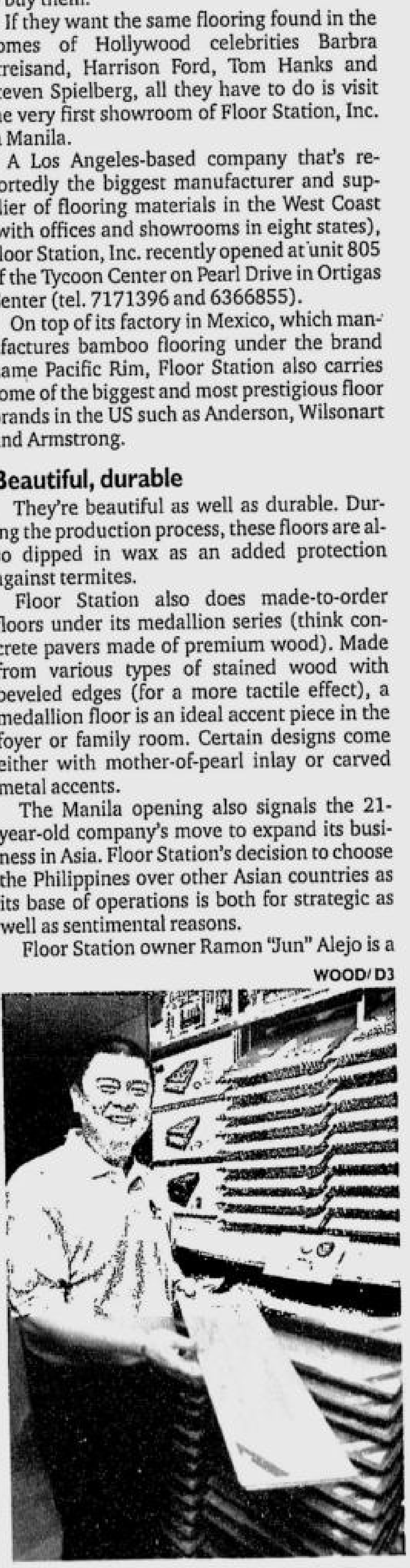
They're beautiful as well as durable. During the production process, these floors are also dipped in wax as an added protection against termites.

Floor Station also does made-to-order floors under its medallion series (think concrete pavers made of premium wood). Made from various types of stained wood with beveled edges (for a more tactile effect), a medallion floor is an ideal accent piece in the foyer or family room. Certain designs come either with mother-of-pearl inlay or carved metal accents.

The Manila opening also signals the 21-year-old company's move to expand its business in Asia. Floor Station's decision to choose the Philippines over other Asian countries as its base of operations is both for strategic as well as sentimental reasons.

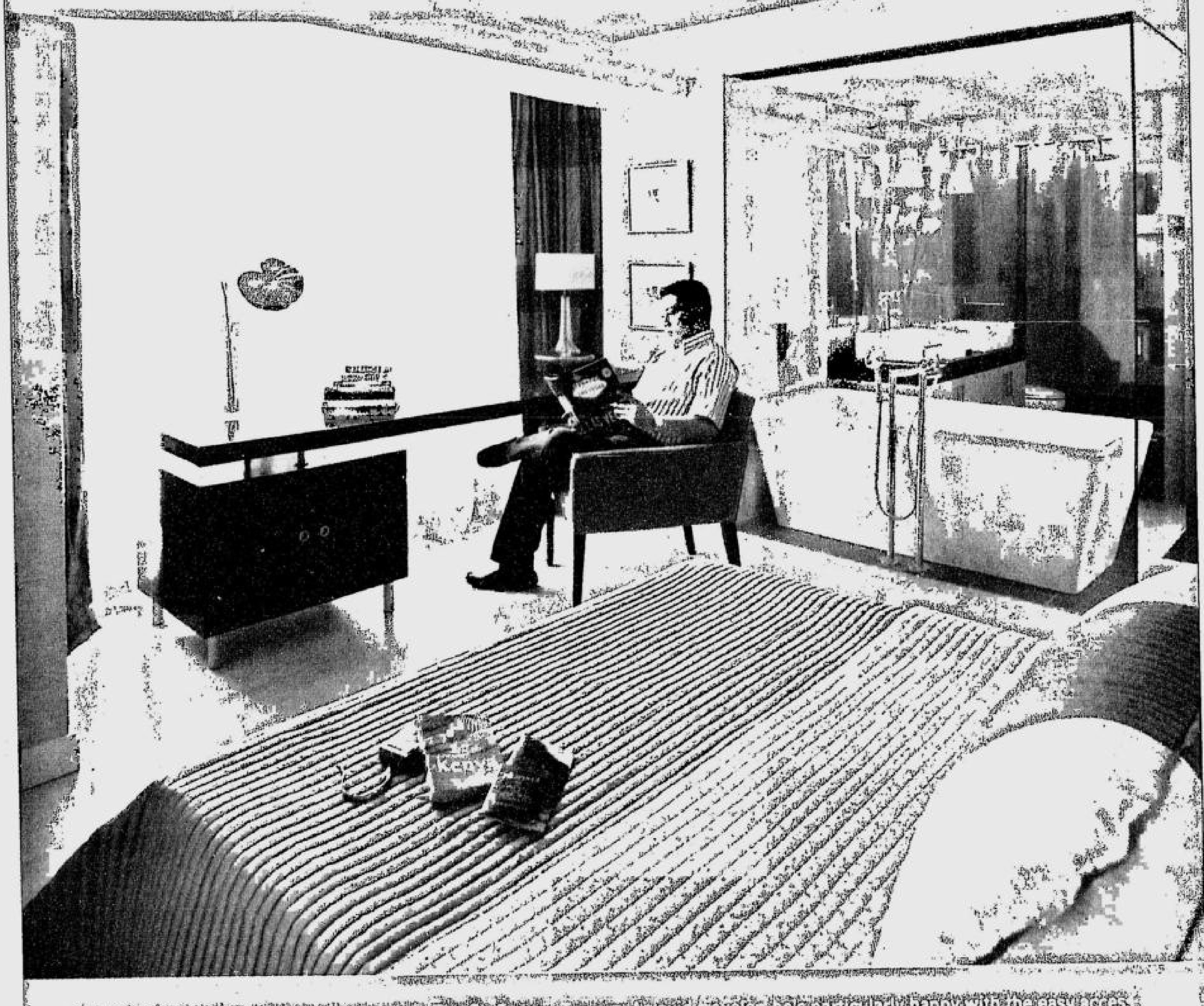
Floor Station owner Ramon "Jun" Alejo is a

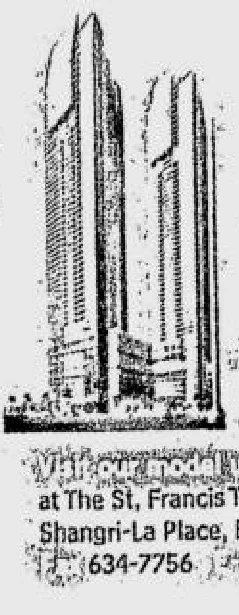
WOOD/ D3

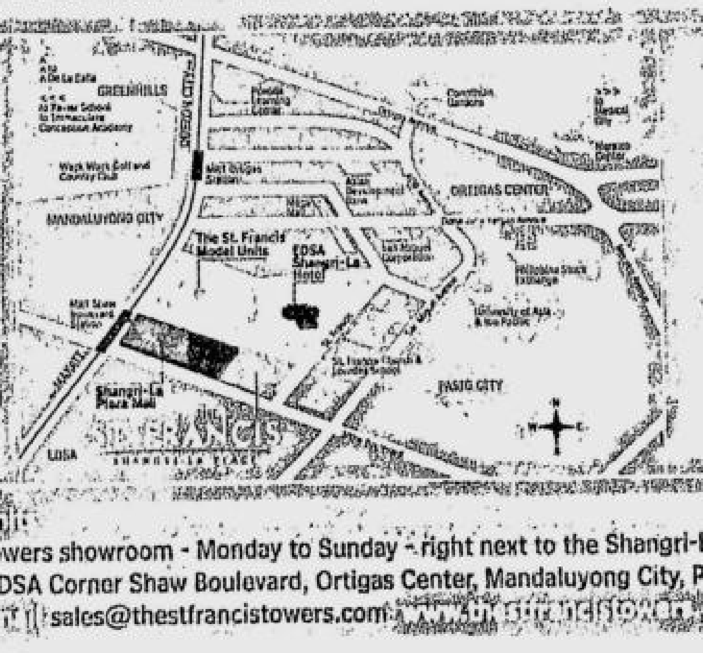


RAMON "Jun" Alejo talks shop at the Floor Station showroom in Manila.

RAFFY LERMA







"International style = that's what appeals to me."
JAIME FERNANDO "JAY-JAY" REYES, BUSINESSMAN

Jay-Jay has bought a two-bedroom unit in The St. Francis Towers. An avid traveler, he's particularly happy with the easy acces to transport, and the top international quality of this Kuok Group development.

- Choose from two-bedroom, one-bedroom and studio units, many with balconies. For lifestyle or investment, units are designed for flexibility
- Located in Shangri-La Place, in Ortigas Center
- Link access to Shangri-La Plaza Mall and air-conditioned walkway to EDSA Shangri-La Hotel. MRT access through Shangri-La Plaza Mall
- Clubhouse with gym, aerobics room, spa, steam room
- Swimming pool, kiddies' pool
- Deluxe Banquet/Function Room
- 24-hour convenience store, concierge service

Visit our model unit
at The St. Francis Towers showroom - Monday to Sunday - right next to the Shangri-La Plaza Mall,
Shangri-La Place, EDSA Corner Shaw Boulevard, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City, Philippines
634-7756 sales@thestfrancistowers.com www.thestfrancistowers.com

Call 634-8080, 634-8111

THE ST. FRANCIS
SHANGRI-LA PLACE
the ultimate in city living

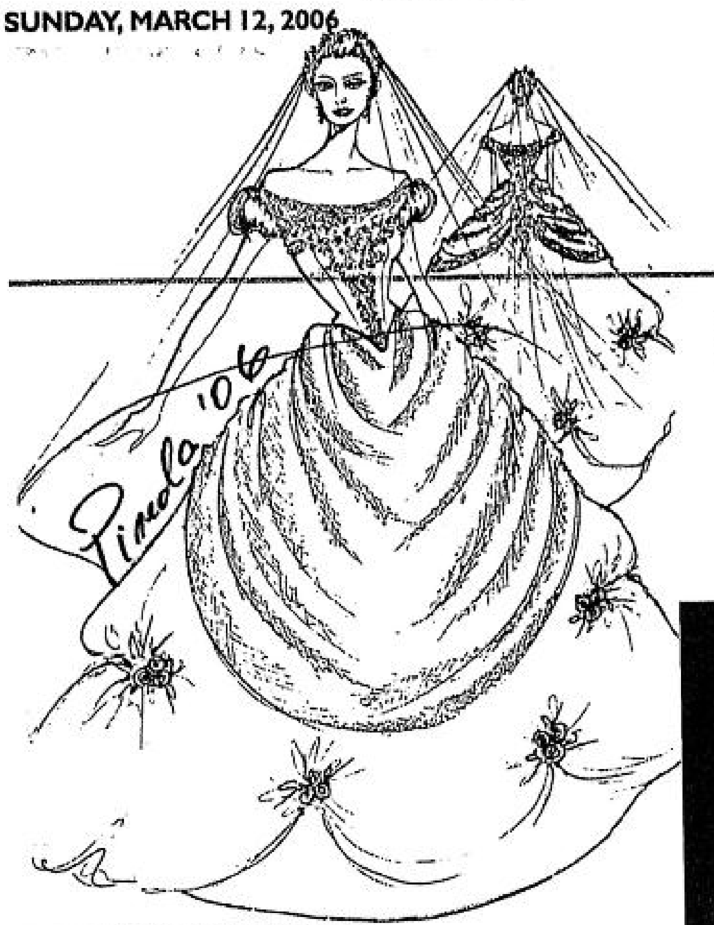
A Development of The Shang Grand Tower Corporation, part of the Kuok Group of Companies.
Australia, China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore.

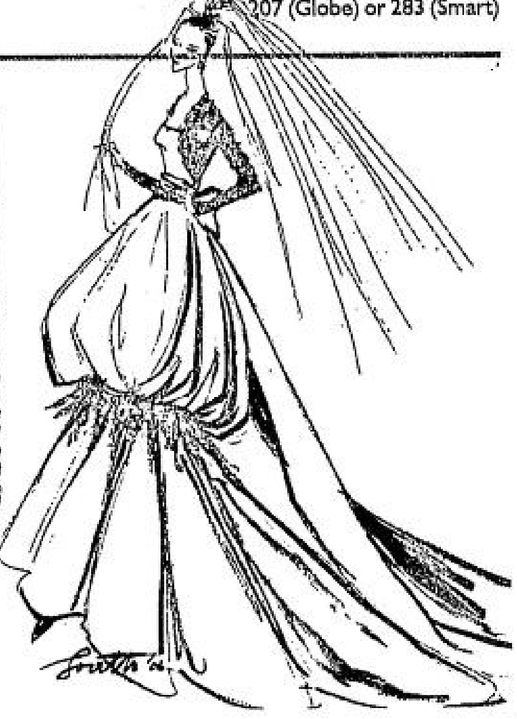
The particulars, details and visuals shown herein are intended to give a general idea of the project and as such are not to be relied upon as statements of fact. While such particulars and details are based on present plans which have been prepared with utmost care and are presented in good faith, buyers are invited to verify their factual correctness and subsequent changes, if any. The contents herein are subject to change without prior notice and do not constitute part of an offer or contract. HLURB L/S#: 13493

Sunday LifeStyle

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

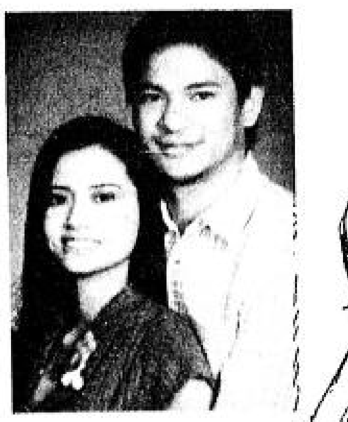
Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/age/city/message to
207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)





Milestones

We welcome announcements of weddings and engagements. Submit names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, and gown designer along with a photo of the couple and a sketch of the bridal gown, if any, to the Inquirer, *P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required if the wedding has already taken place. Announcements will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the senders.*



FRANCISCO-SEÑERES

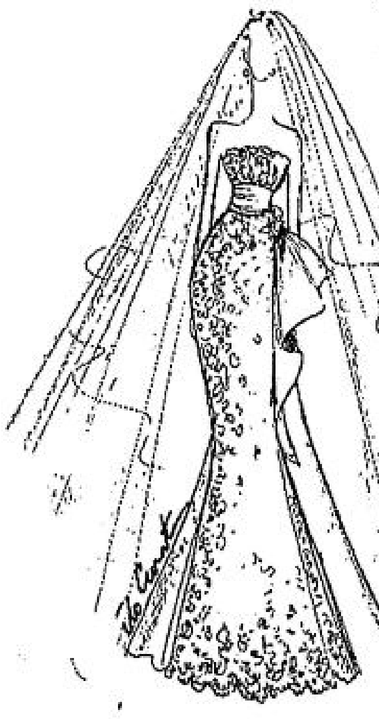
Hannah M. Señeres, daughter of Ambassador **Roy V. Señeres** and **Minerva M. Señeres**, and **Francis Edward D. Francisco**, son of **Ernesto E. Francisco** and **Corazon D. Francisco**, will exchange marriage vows at the St. Joseph's Parish Bamboo Organ Church in Las Piñas on March 25, 3:30 p.m. Reception will follow at 6 p.m. at the SJA Hall. The bride will wear a strapless bubble gown with train in ivory shades of duchess satin by Loretto.

INUMERABLE-VICENCIO

Liz Carlota Vicencio, daughter of **Roseller** and **Caroline Vicencio**, will marry **José Mari Inumerable**, son of **Emmanuel** and **Madeleine Inumerable**, on March 24 at Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati City.

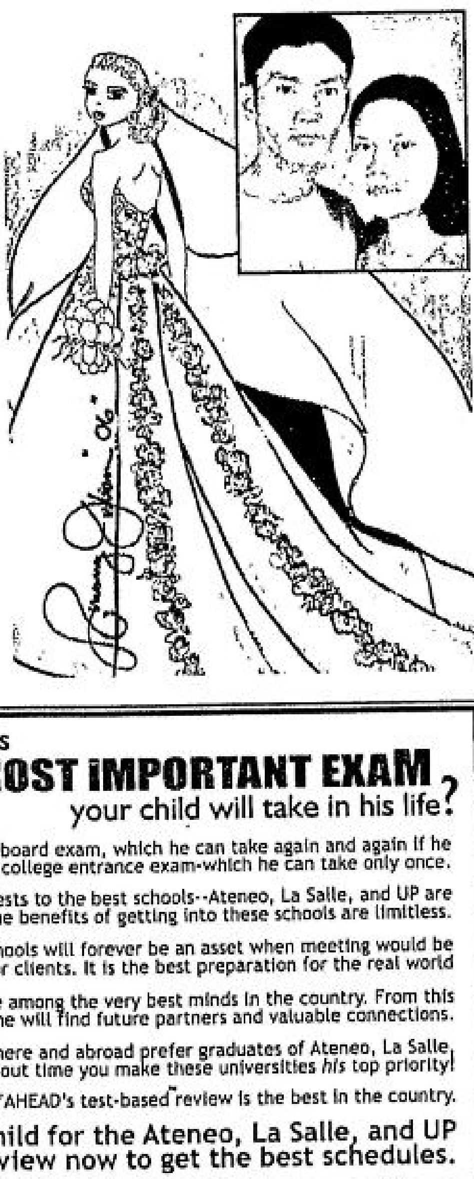
Eric Pineda designed the bride's gown of ivory silk duchess satin embellished with caviar beads, faux pearls and rhinestones. Floral-shaped Swarovski crystals will adorn her hair and she will have a 30 ft-long veil. The bridal entourage will wear gowns in blush, rose and salmon-pink silk taffeta.

Reception will follow at the Rockwell Tent, Rockwell Center, Makati City.



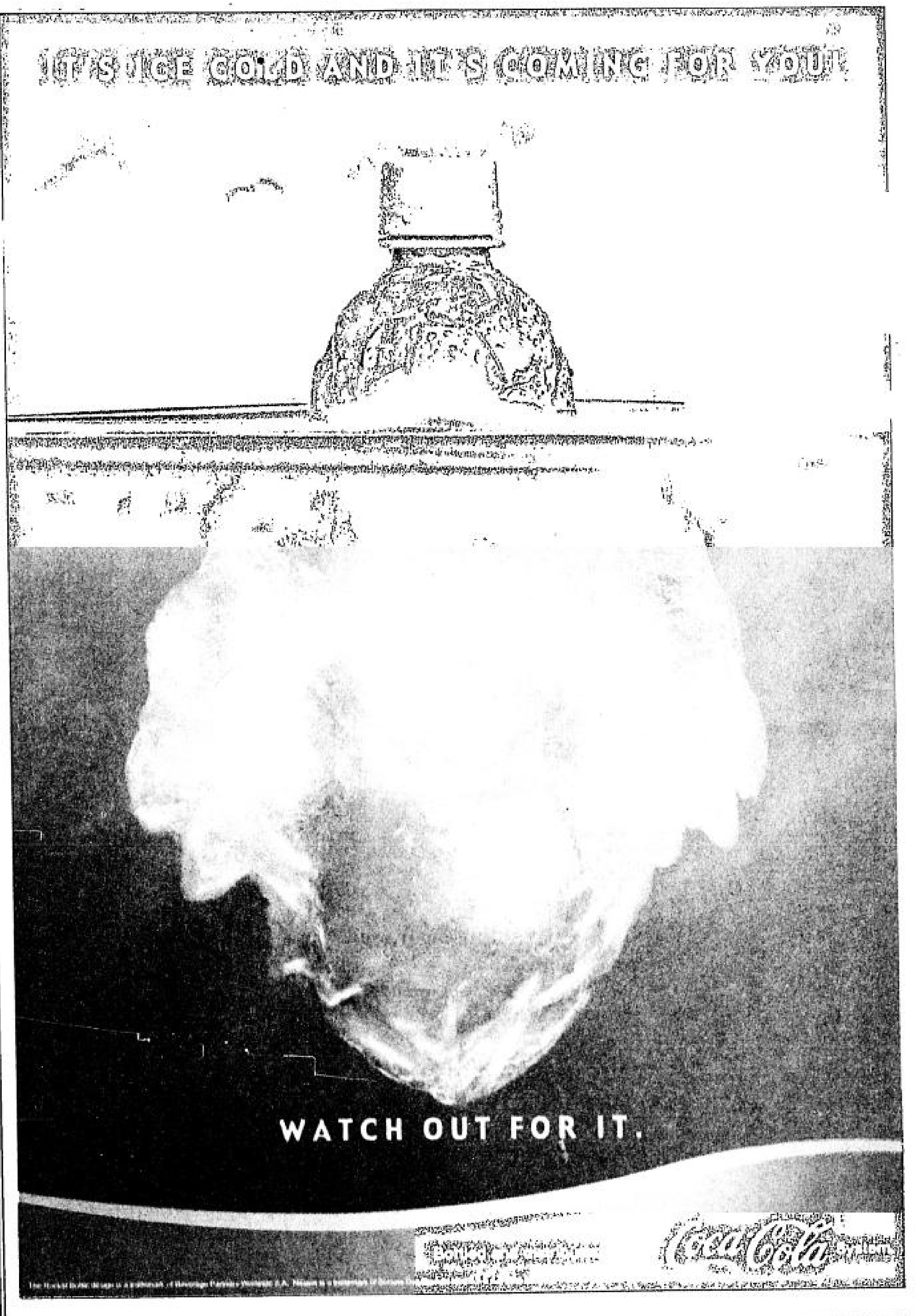
SACLUTI-DILOY

José Antonio A. Sacluti, son of **Armando N. Sacluti** and **Rachel A. Alvero**, and **Catherine Joy M. Diloy**, daughter of **José S. Diloy Jr.** and **Judita Cristina M. Diloy**, will wed on March 18 at San Agustin Church, Intramuros, Manila. Reception will follow at Fr. Blanco's Garden. **Ito Curata** designed the wedding gown.



SANTIAGO-MABILIR

Wilfredo C. Santiago, son of **Bartolome** and **Juliana Santiago**, will wed **Marissa L. Mabilir**, daughter of **Mario** and **Flordeliza Mabilir** on March 25 at St. Vincent Ferrer Church Solana, Cagayan Valley. **Amang Julian** designed the wedding gown. The gown is made of duchess satin with fully beaded body using Swarovski crystals, acrylic stone and crystal beads with detachable 5-meter twin-panel train and metallic double-width illusion tulle veil.


IT'S ICE COLD AND IT'S COMING FOR YOU!
WATCH OUT FOR IT.
Coca-Cola

AHEAD
TUTORIAL & REVIEW
Your coach for college entrance tests!

What is THE MOST IMPORTANT EXAM your child will take in his life?

- It's not the bar or board exam, which he can take again and again if he fails. It's the college entrance exam-which he can take only once.
- The admission tests to the best schools--Ateneo, La Salle, and UP are competitive...but the benefits of getting into these schools are limitless.
- Education from these schools will forever be an asset when meeting would be employers, in-laws or clients. It is the best preparation for the real world
- Your child will be among the very best minds in the country. From this network, he will find future partners and valuable connections.
- Top corporations both here and abroad prefer graduates of Ateneo, La Salle, and UP. It's about time you make these universities *his* top priority!
- AHEAD's test-based review is the best in the country.

Enroll your child for the Ateneo, La Salle, and UP college entrance tests review now to get the best schedules.

QUEZON CITY: 426-0034 to 38
GREENHILLS: 722 7258
ROBINSONS GALLERIA: 631-1100
DAGUPAN: (075) 516-8588
www.aheadph.com
hello@aheadph.com

Join us on 18 March 2006

OPPORTUNITIES TO STUDY ABROAD SEMINAR!

Guest Speaker: Mr. Karl von Busse (Founder & CEO of KvB Institute of Technology)
Limited seats available! Call now to register at 6700-8400 or 6700-8408.

RafflesDesignInstitute
www.raffles-design-institute.edu.sg
KvB Institute of Technology
www.kvb.edu.au

:: Fashion Design
:: Fashion Marketing & Management
:: Interior Design/Architecture
:: Jewellery Design
:: Digital Media (Multimedia)
:: Photography
:: Product Design
:: TV & Video Production
:: Visual Communication (Graphic Design)

University Partners

HartfordInstitute
A quality institute of RafflesEducationCorp
www.hartford-institute.edu.sg

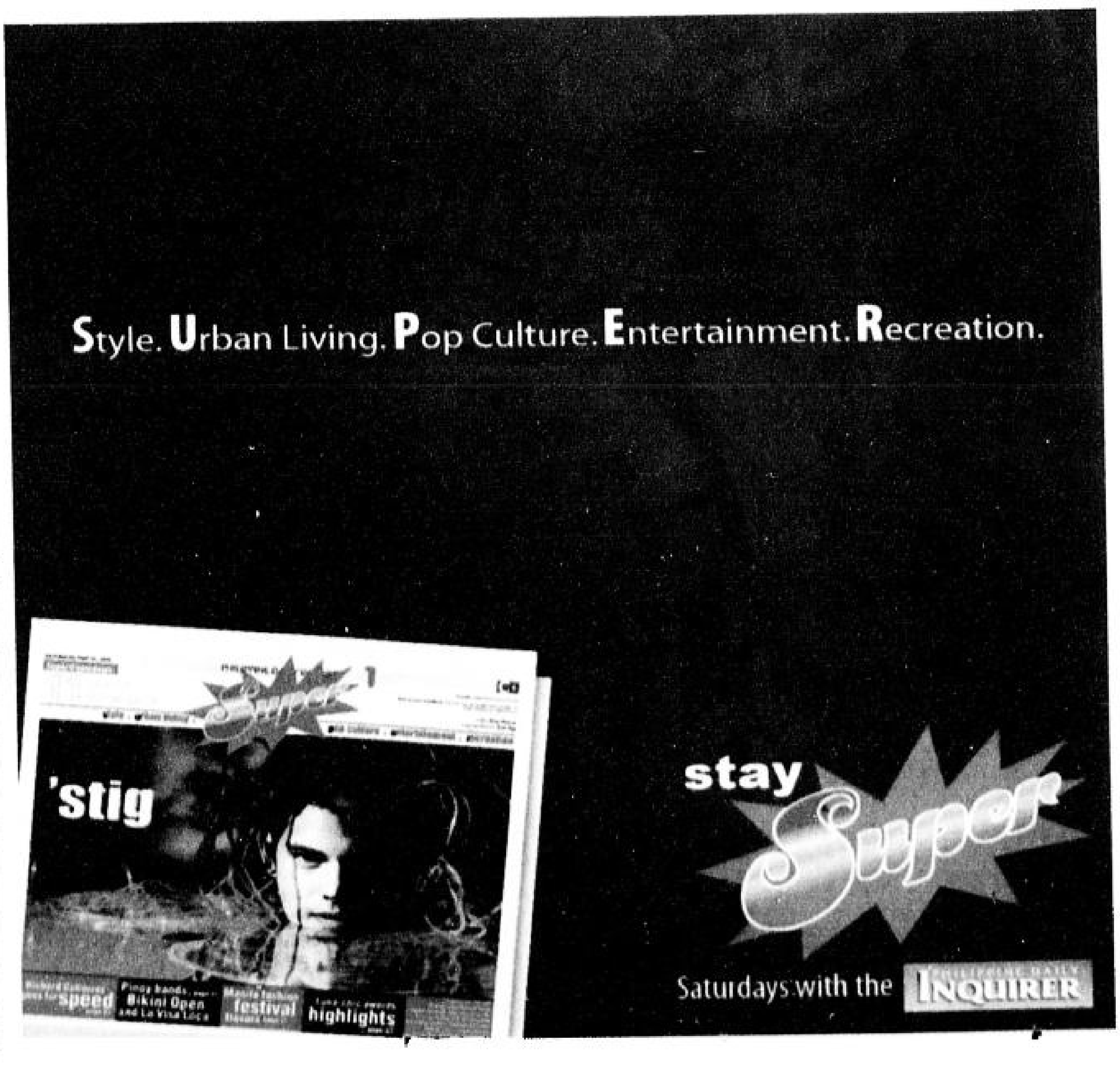
:: Master of Business Administration, Central Queensland University
:: Bachelor of Business (Marketing), Central Queensland University
:: Advanced Diploma in Tourism & Hospitality Management

Advanced standing with 16 affiliated universities in Australia, USA, United Kingdom and New Zealand.

University Partners
University of Leicester
The University of Newcastle

RafflesEducationNetwork
A wholly owned subsidiary of Raffles Education Corporation

International Admission Office in Philippines: UG-7 Swire Elan Suites, 49 Annapolis St Greenhills San Juan, Philippines
Pilar Sabio: +639198302345 Sheryl Salanda: +639182506084 Rex Quimio: +639178161450
Email: enquiries-philippines@raffles-education-network.com Web: www.raffles-education-network.com



Style. Urban Living. Pop Culture. Entertainment. Recreation.
stay Super
Saturdays with the INQUIRER

Color them pink for love

FELIX ALBERT GOQUINGCO Ramos, son of Dr. Roberto Ramos and Cirila Ramos, and Dr. Janelle Marie Simpao Padlan, daughter of lawyer Rody and Elizabeth Padlan, were married recently at the Santuario de San Jose.

Fr. Jerry Manlangit, O.P., officiated.

It was a memorable day for the couple. Most of their guests were in the church to witness them make their vows. The church was decorated in shades of pink to create a romantic ambience.

Reception followed at The Mandarin Oriental Hotel grand ballroom, also elegantly decorated in pink.

Guests of the well-attended affair stayed and partied till past midnight.

THE NEWLYWEDS with the bride's family: sisters Jill Mae and Shaunna; parents lawyer and Ms Rody Padlan; and brothers Jody James and Jay Vincent

THE COUPLE flanked by their entourage including matron of honor Ma. Rosario Sason; maid of honor Dr. Christine Prado; best man Albert Felix Ramos; bridesmaid Jill Mae Padlan; groomsman Robert John Ramos; junior bridesmaids Amelyn Simpao and Ma. Pilar Bernad; junior groomsmen Jody James Padlan and Timothy Simpao; candle sponsors doctors Michelle Tinitigan and Mike Lagamayo; veil sponsors Dr. Karen Ocampo and Andrew Borbon; cord sponsors Pauline Simpao and Jay Vincent Padlan; ring bearer Julian Vicencio; coin bearer Jose Enrique Padlan; bible bearer Andre Sason; and flower girls Shaunna Mae Padlan, Sophia Castro, Louise Suarez, Sophia Torres and Isabela Samson

THE NEWLYWEDS with their *ninongs* and *ninangs*: (from left, bottom) Dr. Jose Moran, Dr. Charity Gorospe, Dr. Isabelo Ongtengco Jr., Rosa Merita Agay, Dr. Norma Padlan, Tomas Maningding Jr., Susette Medina, Dr. Manuel Mejia Jr., Miriam Mirasol, Dr. Antonio Tanchuling; (from left, top) Dr. Pedro Iral, Betty Chua, Dr. Adel Vegel Samson, Dr. Cecilia Bernad, Minako Yamasaki, Komitsu Yamasaki, Roselyn Rosario and Rene Medina

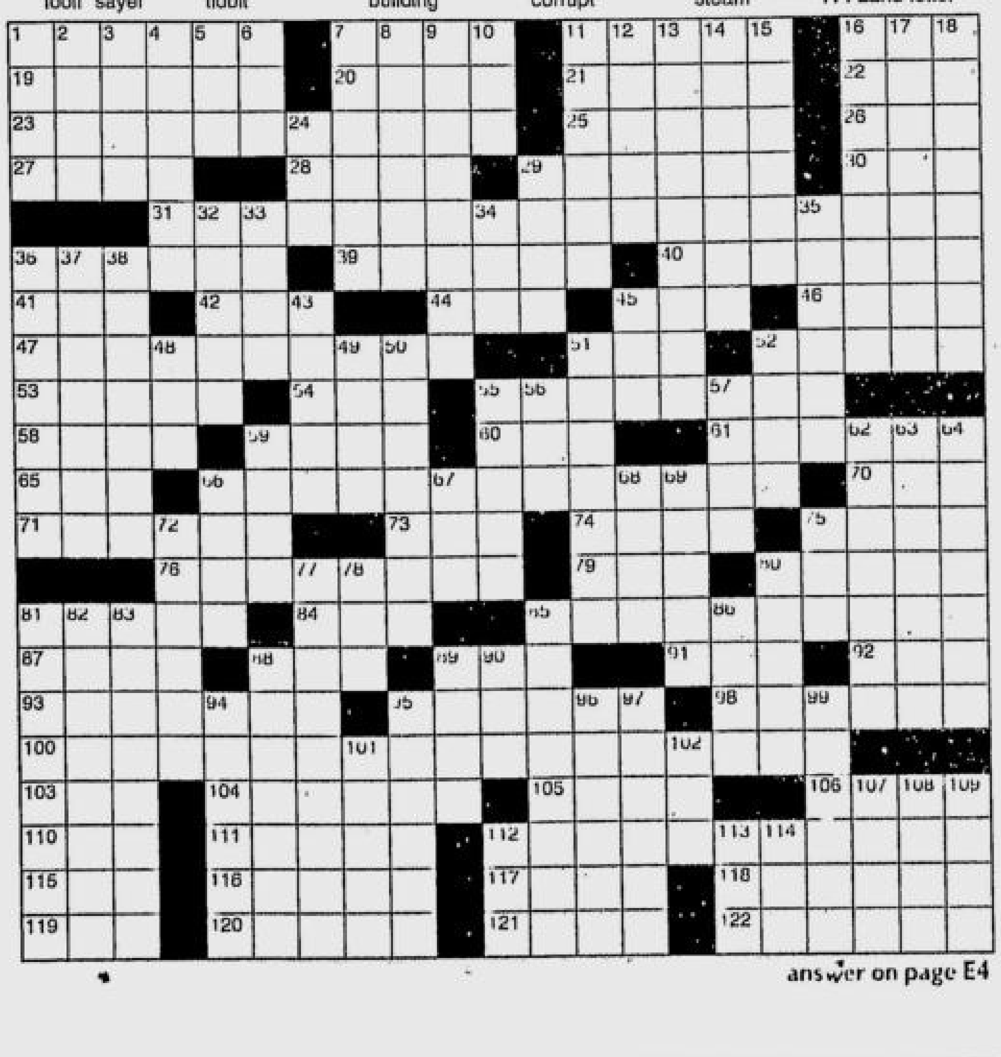
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

I SEE U

ACROSS
1 Isaac Asimov book
7 Smidgens
11 In the raw
16 Cato's 1,400
19 Team spirit
20 Buffalo's lake
21 Greek salad ingredient
22 Before
23 Tips from a grammarian?
25 Kindled again
26 Point of a pen
27 With 14-Down, obvious
28 Cozy corner
29 Took long steps
30 Thurman of movies
31 Lifted extremely high?
36 Spring bloom
39 Wilde's "The Picture of — Gray"
40 Give a name to
41 Multiple-PC hookup
42 Winnebagos, e.g.
44 Ovum
45 "I pity the fool!" sayer
46 Yogi, e.g.
47 One choosing a specific condo?
51 Butter square
52 Total failures
53 Plays charades, e.g.
54 A Gershwin
55 People breathing audibly
58 No, in Nuremberg
59 Get an — effort
60 Give — whirl
61 Part of French Polynesia
65 Battleship inits.
66 "Spenser: For Hire" star's favorite sweets?
70 Actor Silver
71 Resort port in NW France
73 Feel crummy
74 Blue-green
75 Beat walkers
76 Ill- — (rude)
79 Gist
80 Cup division
81 Old episode
84 Granola tidbit
85 Building story that serves a purpose?
87 Preholiday nights
88 Obtained
89 Baking pan
91 Fairy's cousin
92 Sewer scurrier
93 Some ballplayers
95 Big name in private planes
98 Brimless caps
100 Tired folks' relaxing period of card-playing?
103 Stimpy's canine pal
104 Incite
105 NYC stadium name
106 Comfy rooms
110 "Life — cabaret!"
111 Jocularity
112 What you might shout when you get superb service from a package delivery co.?
115 Opera division
116 Put up, as a building
117 Simon or Sedaka
118 Cosmetics queen Curtis
119 Director Spike
120 Office fixtures
121 Notion, in Nantes
122 Combined

DOWN
1 Don of talk radio
2 Attar source
3 Kind of hygiene
4 As much as a sack will hold
5 Spanish cheer
6 Sipped drink
7 Bereft
8 Melodic passage
9 Petulant quarreler
10 Behold
11 Kramden's pal
12 Heads-up
13 1,000 cycles per second
14 See 27-Across
15 Loathe
16 Restaurant offering
17 Place for forensic testing
18 Those who corrupt
24 17-Down material: Abbr.
29 Guys-only
32 Cuffs are slapped on them
33 Sitarist Shankar
34 Use a spade
35 Put the — on (squelch)
36 Graduate
37 Most kooky
38 Belief that natural objects possess souls
43 Asimov's area
45 Siren West
48 Decimal base
49 McDonald's honcho Ray
50 Aviator Amelia
51 Commoner
52 Car grille covers
55 Handle deftly
56 Elevs.
57 Comical Kett
59 Elvis — Presley
62 Mine strike
63 Chilly weather wear
64 Wedges in
66 — Bator, Mongolia
67 Run out of steam
68 Prefix with distant
69 Russian coin
72 Comedian, e.g.
75 — -de-sac (dead end)
77 Middays
78 Scarf down
80 Proposal
81 Second interment
82 Disappear gradually
83 Strike a chord
85 Not molded
86 Napoleon's isle
88 Signal
89 Maryland athlete, informally
90 Lobby add-on
94 Worked well together
95 Trial venues
96 Monster moniker
97 Quite some time
99 "Grease" high school
101 Monk's robe
102 Elver, e.g.
107 Sized up
108 Zero
109 Went after legally
112 Prefix with directional
113 Bit of resistance
114 22nd letter



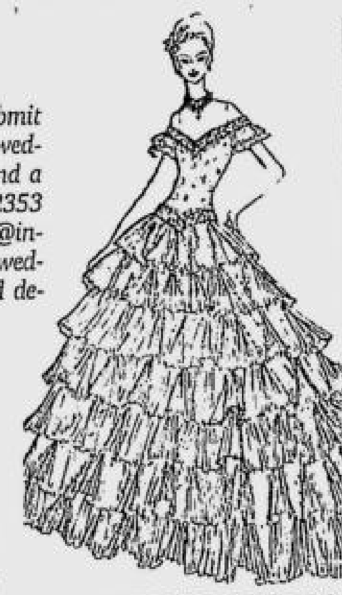
answer on page E4

AFTER THE groom sang Gary V.'s "How Did You Know?", the couple had their first dance as husband and wife to the same song.

AT THE RECEPTION with the groom's family: brother Albert Felix, newlyweds, grandmother Dr. Julia Ramos, parents Dr. and Ms Roberto Ramos, aunt/*ninang* Dr. Cecilia Bernad, cousin Dr. Emil Jaca, and brother Robert John

Milestones

We welcome announcements of weddings and engagements. Submit names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, and gown designer along with a photo of the couple and a sketch of the bridal gown, if any, to the INQUIRER, *P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required if the wedding has already taken place. Announcements will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the senders.*



KATIGBAK DEBUT

Abigail Jean "Abi" Katigbak, daughter of **Hector** and **Cecille Katigbak**, celebrated her 18th birthday recently at Patio Ibarra, Quezon Avenue, QC.

Her debutante's tube princess cut gown 'was designed by **Emily Sy** of **ESY Creations**.

RODRIGUEZ DEBUT

Lourdes Erika Atienza Rodriguez, daughter of **Eduardo** and **Dr. Lorna** (nee Atienza) **Rodriguez**, will celebrate her 18th birthday on March 18 at the Garden Ballroom, Edsa Shangri-La, Mandaluyong City. She is a BS Nutrition and Dietetics student at the University of Santo Tomas.

The debutante will wear a gown by **Thelma Daquioag** made of pleated taffeta with layered, ruffled bouffant skirt.

FLORO DEBUT

Marie Angeline Floro, daughter of **David Sr.** and **Remia Floro**, celebrated her 18th birthday recently at the Grand Ballroom of Alabang Country Club, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

She wore a gown of pink crumpled taffeta, accentuated with French lace and crystal work, designed by **Rem Divino**.

Wedding seminar

THE PHILIPPINE Association of Wedding Planners (PAWP), in cooperation with Edsa Shangri-La Manila, is holding a wedding planning and coordination workshop March 25-26.

The seminar is dubbed Wedding Planning and Coordination: Learn it from the Professionals, Year 2.

Professional planners and industry experts will offer tips and know-how on planning and coordinating a wedding. Call JP Montilla at 5343721 loc. 12123, 4451594, or 0918-9272218.

Reconciling with an abusive, unfaithful husband

DEAR EMILY,

I've been married for 25 years. A year and a half ago, I separated from my husband because I could no longer bear his physical violence.

When he hit me for the sixth time, I decided that was it. I tried to commit suicide by taking sleeping pills, but I was revived in the hospital.

He is now having an affair with a 22-year-old girl who's working in a department store. I am angry because, even if we live separately, we still see each other often. The girl is the same age as our daughter, our only child.

We planned to reunite but, upon hearing this, I decided to cancel those plans. He told me he loved the girl and couldn't let her go.

My husband is 63 and I am 50.

Am I making the right decision? If we get together again, I am sure he will continue to sleep with that girl. I think he only wants us to reunite for appearances' sake.

EMMA

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcelo

He is 63 and you're 50. Aren't you both advanced in age to be fighting like you're still teenagers? Aren't you supposed to have both mellowed and to start looking toward retirement and some quiet by now? Isn't he about to get ready to go to the "departure area"? Not quite yet, but about to?

I'm joking, but for him to be still using brawn at that age is really reprehensible.

If, after 25 years, your marriage didn't get better but got worse, don't you think it's about time you made some drastic decisions on your own?

Call it defeatist, call it whatever name you want—but how much longer are you going to take the mental, emotional and physical abuse from this lump of a guy you call your husband? God in heaven, will one of you please get up, get out and move on—pronto?

How can you take so much beating and still allow jealousy to creep in?

Wouldn't it be better to put a tight ribbon round his neck and present him as a gift to her? Can't you imagine yourself just letting everything get blown by the wind and beginning a new chapter in your life?

Appearances count a lot in this society, definitely. But haven't you lived through enough sham and hypocrisy already? You're unhappy, he's so unhappy he beats you up—how can appearances matter? Are you expecting to get a ribbon or a medal for that?

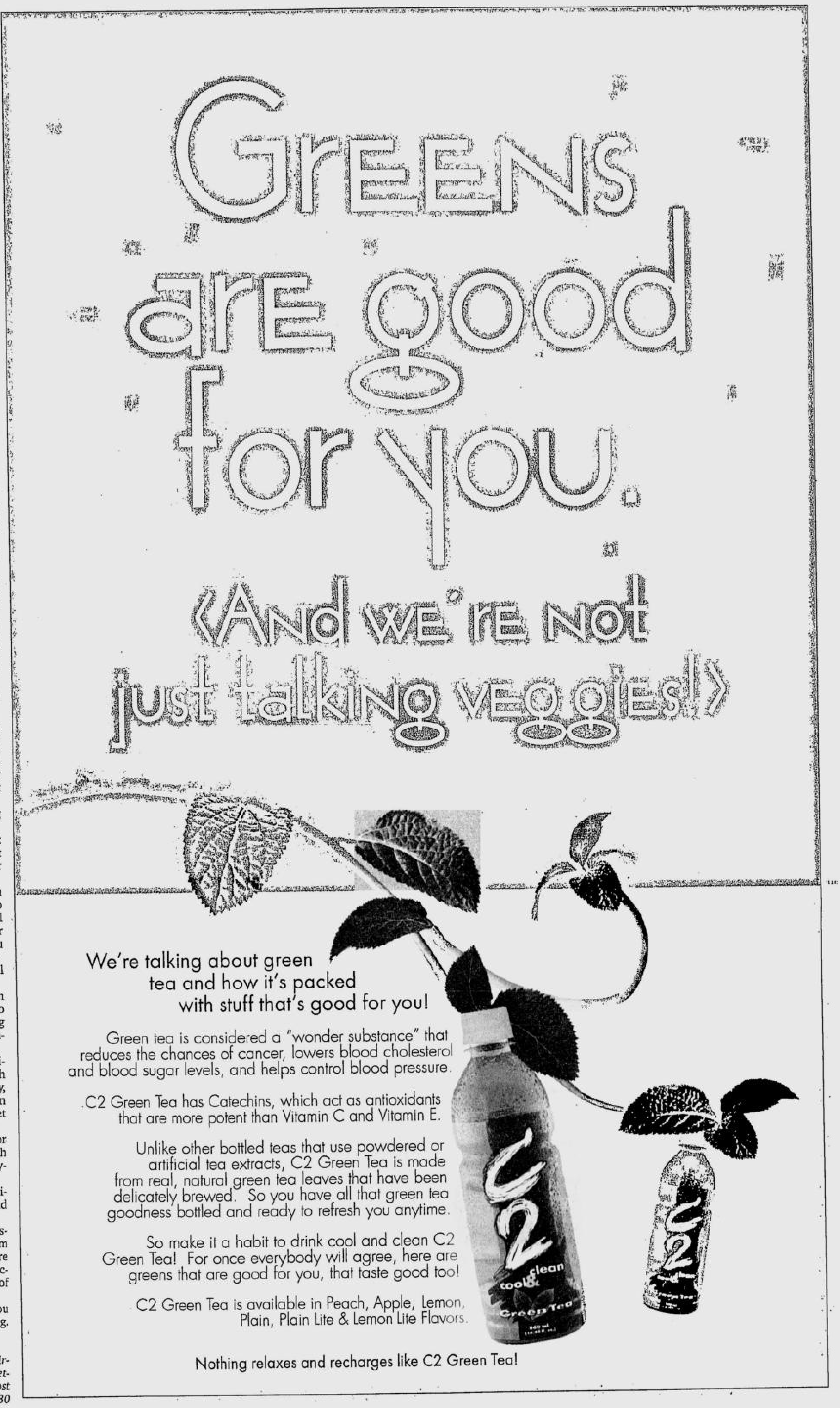
Unless you are a candidate for sainthood or you really, really still love your husband enough to fight for him to the death despite everything—then, save this marriage by all means.

In a little while all his aches will be magnified and his body parts will start failing and falling apart.

If you hang on long enough, his young mistress might have second thoughts about him and leave him sooner than later. If you're "lucky," your dear husband might take a second look at you and allow you to take care of him—eventually.

But, be careful what you wish for as you just might get it—according to a wise saying. It's all up to you now.

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to INQUIRER. *Listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15-8:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, on dwBR 104.3 FM.*



Greens are good for you.
(And we're not just talking veggies!)

We're talking about green tea and how it's packed with stuff that's good for you!

Green tea is considered a "wonder substance" that reduces the chances of cancer, lowers blood cholesterol and blood sugar levels, and helps control blood pressure.

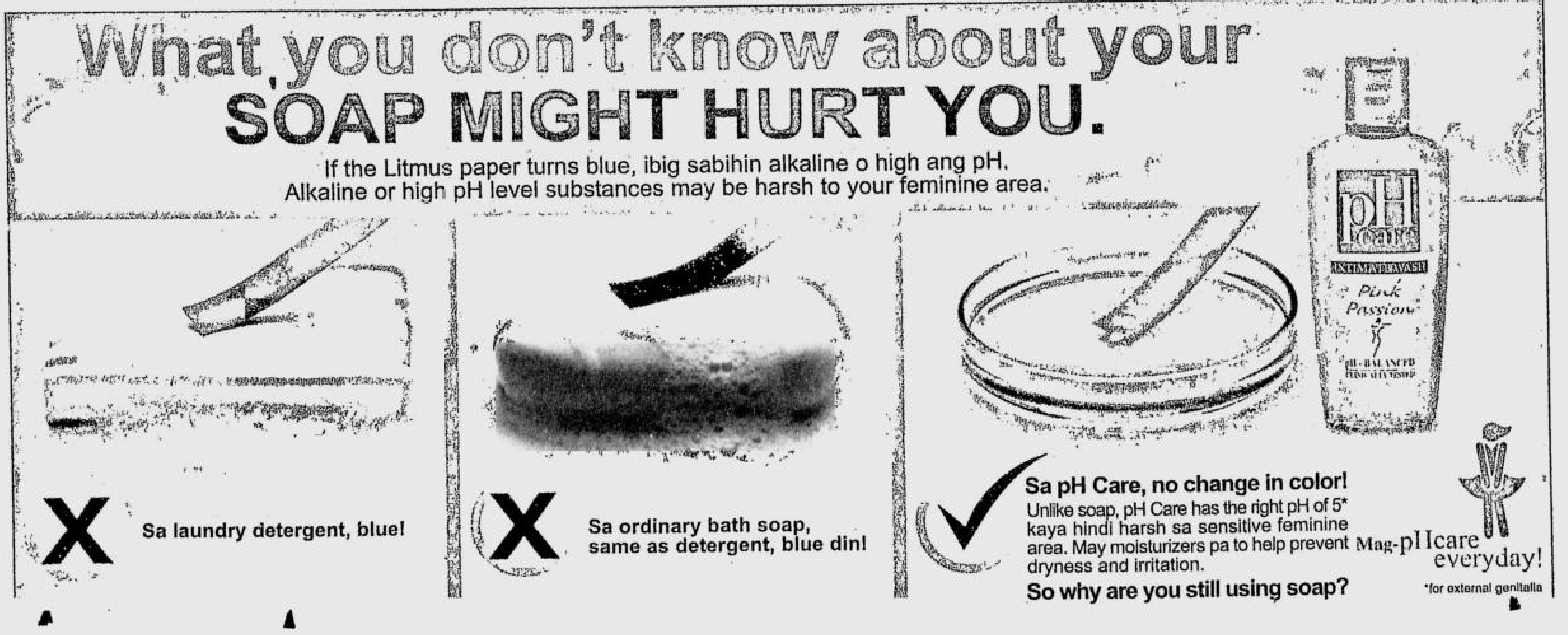
C2 Green Tea has Catechins, which act as antioxidants that are more potent than Vitamin C and Vitamin E.

Unlike other bottled teas that use powdered or artificial tea extracts, C2 Green Tea is made from real, natural green tea leaves that have been delicately brewed. So you have all that green tea goodness bottled and ready to refresh you anytime.

So make it a habit to drink cool and clean C2 Green Tea! For once everybody will agree, here are greens that are good for you, that taste good too!

C2 Green Tea is available in Peach, Apple, Lemon, Plain, Plain Lite & Lemon Lite Flavors.

Nothing relaxes and recharges like C2 Green Tea!



What you don't know about your SOAP MIGHT HURT YOU.

If the Litmus paper turns blue, ibig sabihin alkaline o high ang pH.
Alkaline or high pH level substances may be harsh to your feminine area.

Sa laundry detergent, blue!

Sa ordinary bath soap, same as detergent, blue din!

Sa pH Care, no change in color!
Unlike soap, pH Care has the right pH of 5* kaya hindi harsh sa sensitive feminine area. May moisturizers pa to help prevent dryness and irritation.
So why are you still using soap?

Mag-pHcare everyday!

*for external genitalia

Major miracle through Mother Consuelo Barcelo

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

THE MAJOR MIRACLE EXPERIENCED by a Filipino housewife, who was in a coma for three weeks, through the intercession of Mother Consuelo Barcelo, might help speed up the beatification of the Servant of God who died in 1940.

Mother Consuelo founded the Augustinian Sisters of Our Lady of Consolation with her sister Mother Rita Barcelo in 1888.

Theresita "Chit" Picache Vizconde, an alumna of La Consolacion College, started having severe pain on the left side of her stomach in 2004, three days after taking antibiotics for urine infection. She was brought to the emergency room of St. Luke's Hospital for a cystoscopy. She could not, pass urine even with a catheter.

Chit Vizconde prayed before going to the ER. That was the last thing she remembered. When she woke up after three weeks in coma, she was told she suffered organ failure. All her 10 doctors concluded her chance of survival was only 30 percent.

Her husband Manoling, her three children, relatives, friends and the nuns of La Consolacion launched a prayer brigade. Sister Puri Peña, OSA, said the sisters prayed for Chit every day, begging Mother Consuelo to ask God to save her.

Chit says, "I am deeply grateful for their prayers because, by some miracle, I woke up one morning and took out all the tubes, even though I was not conscious of what I did.

"I never thought I was comatose because nobody told me. (I only found out) last January, when I went out for lunch with a *balikbayan* relative who told me about it. All of them kept asking: 'How are you now?' 'Don't work too hard,' etc. They were all amazed I looked better and healthier... I just want to let people know that God showed everyone that miracles did happen every minute and people should be aware to live a prayerful life each day.

"I know deep inside my heart that the nuns of La Consolacion College prayed for my speedy recovery through the intercession of Mother Consuelo Barcelo who is now performing miracles and helping those who pray to her."

Beatification in Manila?

According to Fr. Fernando Rojo, OSA, postulator for the cause of Mother Consuelo's beatification, Pope Benedict XVI has given the Cardinal of the place, where the Servant of God (a candidate for beatification) used to reside, the authority to preside over the beatification ceremonies.

So the ceremonies might take place in Manila when and if Mother Consuelo is beatified. Those who want *estampita* of Mother Consuelo can write to me at PO Box 2050, Manila. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Mission

The Congregation of the Augustinian Sisters of Our Lady of Consolation is opening its own mission in Barcelona, Spain, from where Mother Consuelo came. The congregation's twin congregation in Spain, the Agostinas Misioneras, has many houses. It has a *residencia* on the original site of the Beaterio de Mantelas de San Agustin.

The congregation runs it as a dormitory for Barcelona university students. This is where the Filipino sisters will stay until they can find their own accommodation.

Testimonies of healing can be sent to La Consolacion Convent, 273 Santolan Road, Pinaglabanan, San Juan, Metro Manila, or call Sister Puri at 7252727.

Healing Mass

A healing Mass will be held at 12 noon, March 19, Feast of Saint Joseph, at the Chapel of Saints Padre Pio and Philomena, 4/F, Goodwill Bldg., 393 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Bel-Air Village, Makati City. Celebrant is healing priest Fr. Teofilo Rustia of Bethesda Spring of Hope Healing Ministries.

This Mass is the third in a series of monthly healing Masses sponsored by the chapel.

MOTHER Consuelo Barcelo y Pages

Call the Chapel of Sts. Padre Pio and Philomena at 8958684 loc. 110, office hours, Monday-Friday.

Novena

The Tagbilaran Association of Metro Manila is holding a nine-day novena of Masses for St. Joseph whose feast day is on March 19. The Masses are being held at the residence of lawyer Gonzalo Escalona and his wife at 148 10th St., New Manila, Quezon City. *Hermano mayor* this year is lawyer Tex Cimafranca.

Devotees include Sol Alturas Yu, Eddie Marjori, Tita Lapez, Norma Francia, Elsie Peralta, Rose Soria, Baby Mamengan, Purita Soliven, lawyer Rolando Inting, Tweet Tweet Alturas and Mimer Alturas.

All from Tagbilaran, Bohol, they have, for the past many years, been holding novena Masses as St. Joseph is the patron saint of Bohol.

Lenten exhibit

The exhibit of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Gen. Trias, Cavite, of images used during the season of Lent ends today, March 12. The exhibit includes images from other parishes in the province. Fr. Mendoza, historian of Cavite, mounted the exhibit.

Shrine

The parish of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Valenzuela, Bulacan marks its 45th year today, March 12, with a Lenten recollection at 1 p.m. and concelebrated Mass at 5 p.m. led by Bishop José Oliveros. Call 2915609. Msgr. Moises Andrade is rector.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

I	R	O	B	O	T	■	D	A	B	S	■	N	A	K	E	D	■	M	C	D
M	O	R	A	L	E	■	E	R	I	E	■	O	L	I	V	E	■	E	R	E
U	S	A	G	E	A	D	V	I	C	E	■	R	E	L	I	T	■	N	I	B
S	E	L	F	■	■	N	O	O	K	■	S	T	R	O	D	E	■	U	M	A
■	■	■	U	P	R	A	I	S	E	D	T	O	T	H	E	S	K	I	E	S
A	Z	A	L	E	A	■	D	O	R	I	A	N	■	E	N	T	I	T	L	E
L	A	N	■	R	V	S	■	■	E	G	G	■	M	R	T	■	B	E	A	R
U	N	I	T	P	I	C	K	E	R	■	■	P	A	T	■	B	O	M	B	S
M	I	M	E	S	■	I	R	A	■	W	H	E	E	Z	E	R	S	■	■	■
N	E	I	N	■	A	F	O	R	■	I	T	A	■	■	T	A	H	I	T	I
U	S	S	■	U	R	I	C	H	D	E	S	S	E	R	T	S	■	R	O	N
S	T	M	A	L	O	■	■	A	I	L	■	A	Q	U	A	■	C	O	P	S
■	■	■	M	A	N	N	E	R	E	D	■	N	U	B	■	O	U	N	C	E
R	E	R	U	N	■	O	A	T	■	■	U	T	I	L	E	F	L	O	O	R
E	V	E	S	■	G	O	T	■	I	I	N	■	■	E	L	F	■	R	A	T
B	A	S	E	M	E	N	■	C	E	S	S	N	A	■	B	E	R	E	T	S
U	N	O	R	E	S	T	F	O	R	T	H	E	W	E	A	R	Y	■	■	■
R	E	N	■	S	T	I	R	U	P	■	A	S	H	E	■	■	D	E	N	S
I	S	A	■	H	U	M	O	R	■	U	P	S	I	L	O	V	E	Y	O	U
A	C	T	■	E	R	E	C	T	■	N	E	I	L	■	H	E	L	E	N	E
L	E	E	■	D	E	S	K	S	■	I	D	E	E	■	M	E	L	D	E	D

GUITAR GEAR GUITAR GEAR GUITAR GEAR GUITAR GEAR GUITAR GEAR GUITAR GEAR

JB® MUSIC

Laney NEW ARRIVALS!!!

LX 12
10 watts
guitar amplifier
~~Reg. price P3,970.00~~
Promo price P3,176.00

TFX 3H
200 watts
guitar amp. head
~~Reg. price P24,880.00~~
Promo price P19,904.00

RB1
15 watts
bass amplifier
~~Reg. price P5,950.00~~
Promo price P4,760.00

TFX3
120 watts
guitar amplifier with DSP
~~Reg. price P31,315.00~~
Promo price P25,052.00

TFX412A
200 watts
angled 4"x12" cabinet
with Celestion speakers
~~Reg. price P22,610.00~~
Promo price P18,088.00

A1
65 watts
acoustic amp
~~Reg. price P23,260.00~~
Promo price P18,608.00

ZOOM NEW ARRIVALS!!!

A2
96KHz/24 Bit
acoustic effects
47 effects
80 memory locations
40 drum/rhythm patterns
chromatic tuner
P5,800.00

A2.1u
96KHz/24 Bit
acoustic effects
47 effects
80 memory locations
40 drum/rhythm patterns
chromatic tuner
programmable expression pedal
XLR output
USB port
P10,300.00

B2.1u
96KHz/24 Bit
bass effects w/ pedal
47 effects
80 memory locations
40 drum/rhythm patterns
chromatic tuner
programmable expression pedal
XLR output
USB port
P10,300.00

B2
96KHz/24 Bit
bass effects
47 effects
80 memory locations
40 drum/rhythm patterns
chromatic tuner
P5,800.00

Promo Period is from March 12 - 31 2006 Per DTI-NCR Permit No 1589 . Series of 2006

CALL OR VISIT OUR SHOWROOMS FOR MORE MODELS TO CHOOSE FROM!!!
• SM MEGAMALL 635-5691 / 635-5692 • SM NORTH EDSA 453-9503 / 925-4010 • SM FAIRVIEW 418-0195 / 935-4467 • SM VALENZUELA 291-0348
• SM PAMPANGA (045) 963-5236 • SM SOUTHMALL 806-6754 / 806-6725 • SM CEBU (032) 232-1432 • HARRISON PLAZA 526-3733 / 523-7041
• PARKSQUARE 1, MAKATI 815-3855 / 815-3949 • ATC, ALABANG 842-9545 / 809-1726 • SALONGA, CUBAO 911-2307 / 911-2367

GUITAR GEAR GUITAR GEAR GUITAR GEAR GUITAR GEAR GUITAR GEAR

We laud the winners of the 8th Annual Ayala Malls Merchant Rewards.

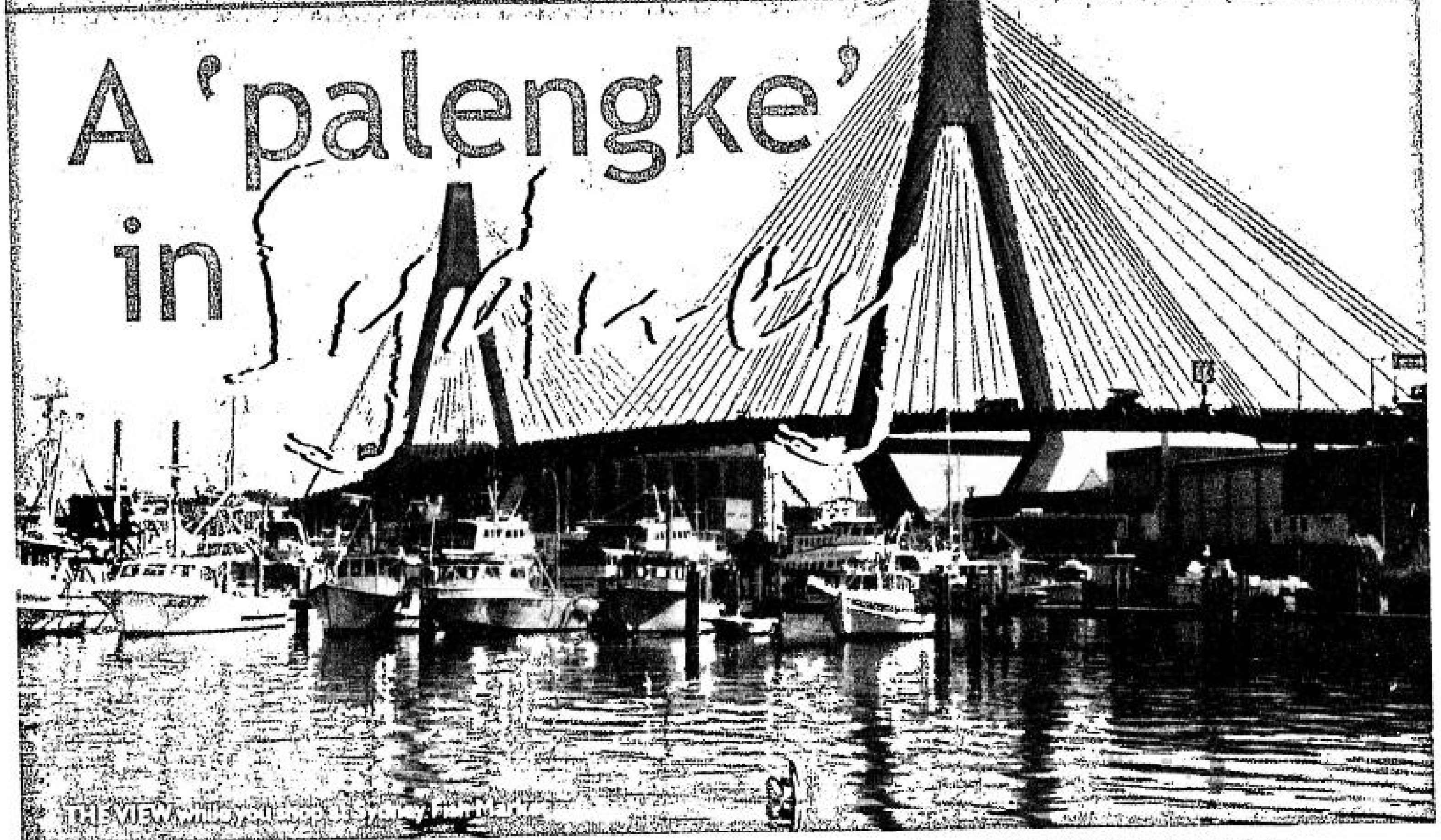
Their excellence in Visual Merchandising, Marketing and Store Operations showed that winning is indeed, in fashion at Ayala Malls.

BAYO
Grand Store of the Year

THE 8TH ANNUAL AYALA MALLS Merchant Rewards
glorietta
GREENBELT
ALABANG TOWN
AYALA CENTER CEBU
Ayala Malls Love'mall!

Co-presented by:
citibank world privileges

A 'palengke' in Sydney



The largest fish market in the Southern Hemisphere is worth a visit for its great variety of fish and modern amenities

Text and photos by J Gamboa
Contributor

THE SYDNEY FISH MARKET is the largest fish market in the Southern Hemisphere, and is only second to Tokyo's Tsukiji Market in terms of variety. Located in Pyrmont, it is just a short cab-ride from downtown Sydney.

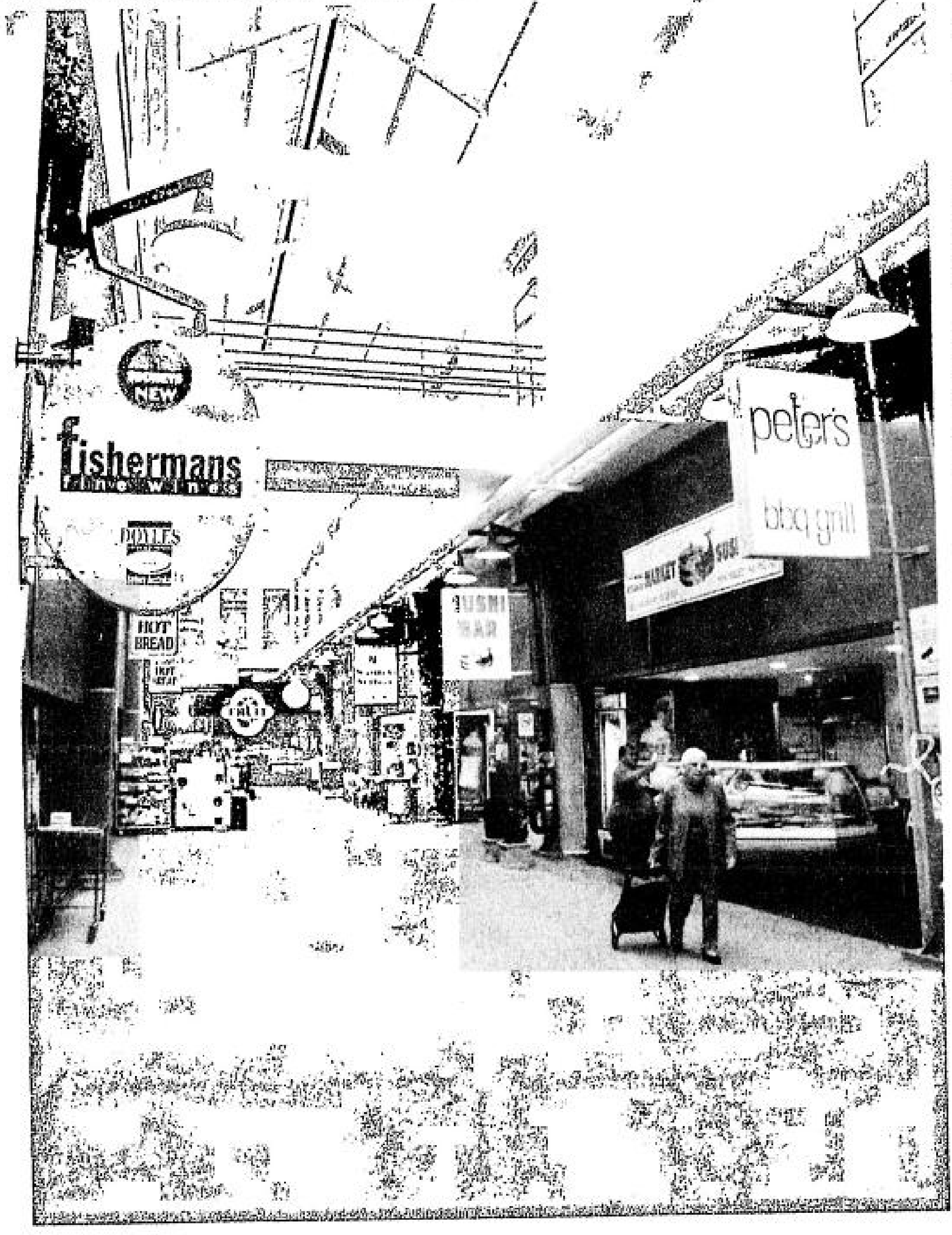
Having been to Tsukiji Market, I found the Sydney Fish Market very different. It is so much smaller—you can walk around the entire market in 20 minutes. It's very modern, with fish and other sea creatures enclosed in glass displays, much like your modern supermarket. And everything is in English! So you have an easier time remembering the different names of fishes.

You can eat there, too, raw oysters by the dozen, fish and chips, steamed cockles, mussels. There's even a shop that cooks up these fresh seafood Chinese-style!

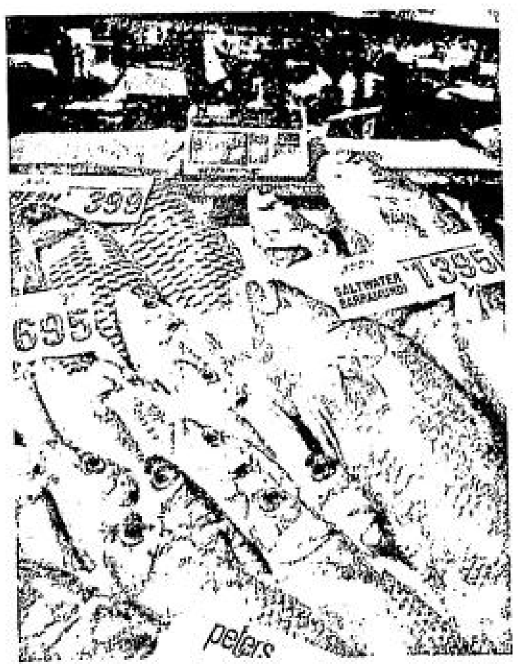
I have to admit the Sydney Fish Market looks a little touristy. I was quite surprised that any wholesale business was being conducted there. (Bidding was, in fact, computerized.)

If you're in Sydney and into fresh fish and oysters, you may want to pay a visit.

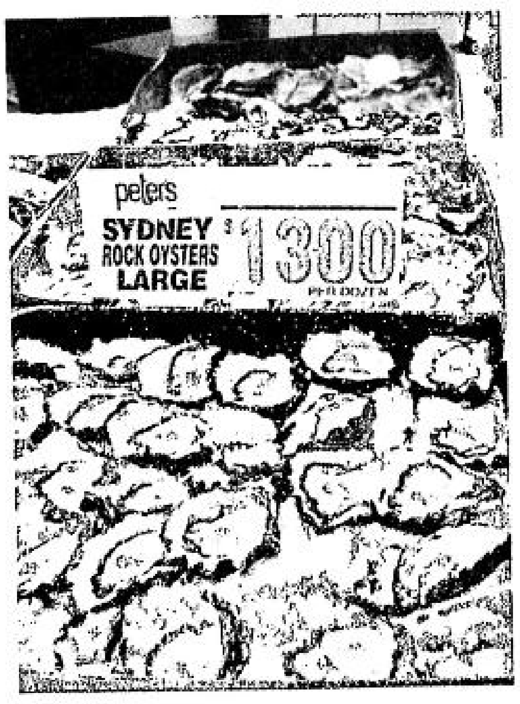
Sydney Fish Market at Bank Street Pyrmont, is open every morning (except Christmas Day), from 7 a.m.



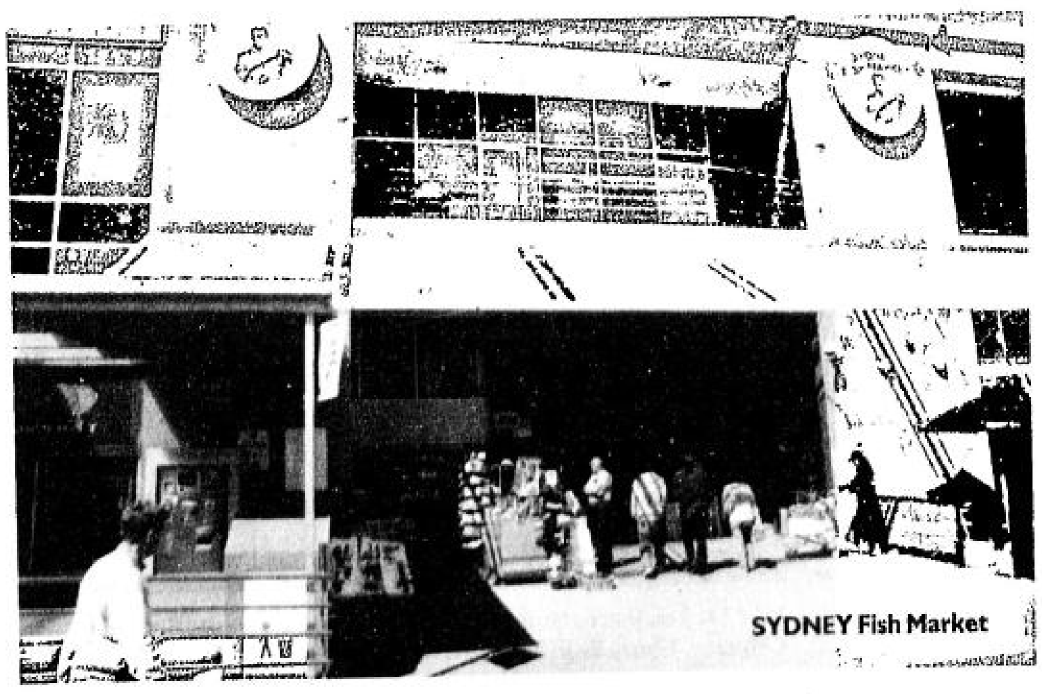
INSIDE Sydney Fish Market



OUR local *apahap* is know as barramundi in Australia.



OYSTERS for P45 a piece!



SYDNEY Fish Market

• Weddings for as low as
P 38,360+ inclusive of amenities
• Debut Package for as low as
P 38,360+ inclusive of amenities
• Other Party Package
for as low as P24,750+

Your all occasion, location...

City Garden Hotel
Makati

Makati corner Kalayaan Avenues, Makati City
Telephone No.: 899-1111
E-mail: makati@citygardenhotels.com
www.citygardenhotels.com

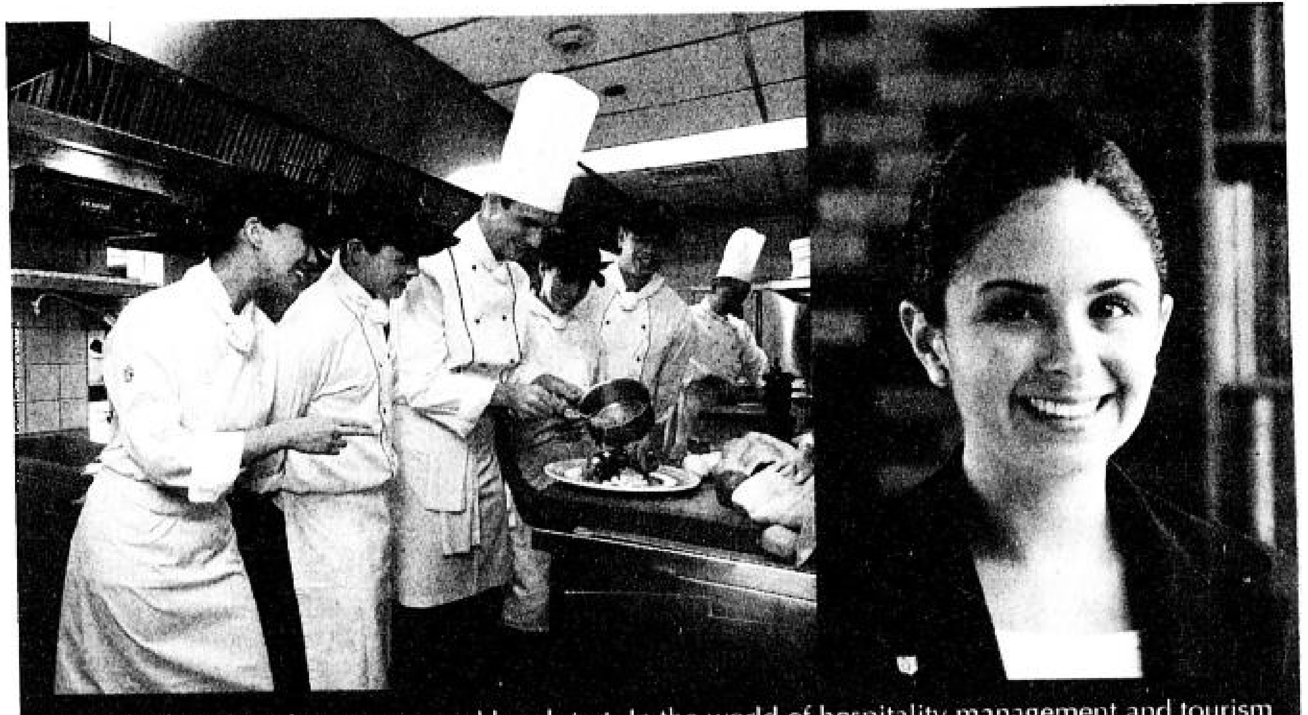
Celebrate!

Hotel Elizabeth
Fersal • Baguio

Experience the luxury of a Mediterranean
boutique hotel in the City of Pines...

Avail of our P1,900.00
net/person based on twin sharing
Free Breakfast

No. 1 J. Felipe St.
cor. Gibraltar Rd., Baguio City
Tel. No.: (074) 619-0367
www.hotelelizabeth.com.ph


A real education gives you a good head start. In the world of hospitality management and tourism that recipe calls for a finely balanced blend of academic perspective, management expertise, and practical training gained from industry leaders across the globe.

Benefit from world class curriculum and international internships across five continents.

Education guaranteed to get you
miles ahead of the rest.

BACHELOR'S DEGREE
INTERNATIONAL HOSPITALITY
MANAGEMENT
MAJOR IN CULINARY ARTS OR HOTEL ADMINISTRATION

First intake June 2006
Application ongoing until 31 March

Student interviews conducted Wednesdays to Saturdays
Please call for an appointment. Limited slots available.

For inquiries please call
6385555 or 6361613

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS
HCIMA
IACP
CHRIE

INDUSTRY PARTNERS
GOODWOODPARK HOTEL Singapore
THE ROYAL PEACOCK
Anantara
INTERCONTINENTAL
HYATT.
Scarlet
THE PHILIPPINE PLAZA
MERITUS
DIAMOND HOTEL
THE PENINSULA
PARK
DISCOVERY
CROWNE PLAZA
THE PLACE TO MEET.

ENDERUN

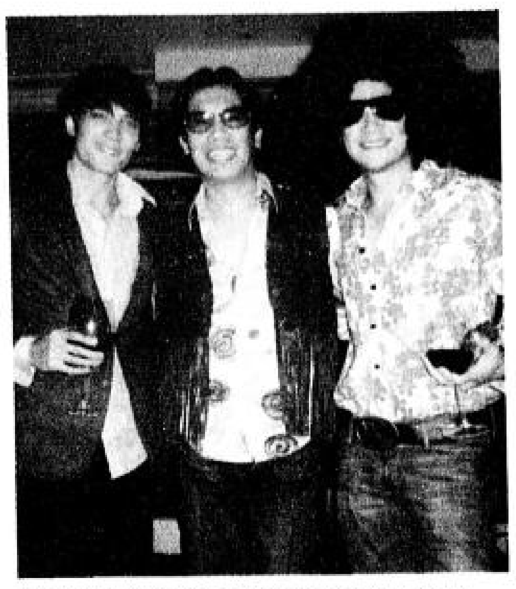
ENDERUN COLLEGES Inc. [illegible] Wynsum Corporate Plaza, 22 Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Visit www.enderun.com.ph

SGV founder Washington SyCip and Doris Ho

LUCERNE owner Ivan Yao and Mall of Asia manager Steven Tan

PEARL celebrator TDG CFO Socorro Niro with guests Tina and Joe Guingona

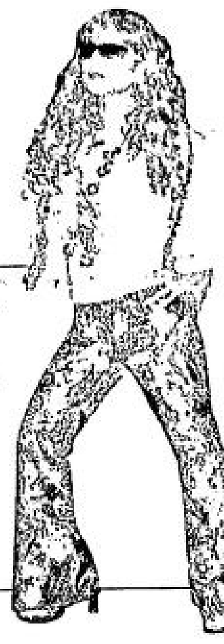
BUBBLES Paraiso, Nicollete Bell and Val de los Santos


ALL-OUT '70s Lukce Jickain, Joji Dingcong and Anton San Diego

Nothing can stop progress

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes



MY LATE BROTHER, **LOUIE Prieto**, was a comic. His sense of humor was fantastic. He once said that if you invested in a good suit, you would never grow hungry. His theory was that by wearing that suit, one could just hang out at the village church and eat at all the food-laden wakes, or make the rounds of the hotel circuit and dine at all the wedding receptions. Louie would have turned 44 this March 16. We all miss his great wit.

Louie's food theory was particularly felt these past two weeks, as our family cook left us. Being total useless in the kitchen, my husband **Dennis** and I have been eating out for lunch and dinner daily. Luckily, we have been invited to dinner almost every day so we have not had to resort to Louie's tactics. In fact, there have been so many dinner celebrations ranging from building launches to birthdays, company anniversaries and new restaurant openings. Truly the social whirl is impervious to political problems.

New SM development

At the height of the attempted coup and rallies, SM Development Corp., one of the country's most respected names in retailing and mall development, went ahead and launched The Mezza Residences, a whopping 152 floors of residential space spread over four towers, each 38-stories tall! Situated on the corner of Aurora Boulevard and Araneta Street in the heart of Quezon City, Mezza will be an area landmark in the decades to come.

The well-attended launch at the Podium Mall had **Henry Sy Jr.** and his sister, **Elizabeth Sy**, unveil the scale model showing the four towers and its sprawling, 1,000-sqm lawn plus all the amenities including a 25-meter lap pool, picnic and playground area and Zen-inspired garden. The best part is that The Mezza Residences (check out www.smdevelopment.com) will have hassle-free access with a bridge that connects to SM Centerpoint. If I lived there, I might as well apply as mall manager since I will surely be shopping every day!

Despite the "political disturbances" that evening, the event had a large turnout and was quite successful. I particularly enjoyed the food catered by **Margarita Fores'** Cibo, which beats home-cooked *adobo* any day. Right after I finally end my breast-feeding days, which I find myself still miraculously devoted to, I shall start Gaita's South Beach-diet meal program.

> Despite the political instability, SM is pushing through with development and the Delgado group sails on, intrepidly

BDO executives Jesus Jacinto and Nestor Tan

There is nothing that can stop progress. I recall SM North being built at the height of the mid-'80s uncertainties and instability and SM Megamall pushing through despite the turmoil of the '90s. With his vision and genuine faith in the country, Henry Sy constructs his malls when everyone else seems to be heading in a lemming-like mass-exodus to the US or wherever outside the Philippines. And now again, he is enforcing his belief in the country with the soon-to-come, May 2006 opening of the gigantic SM Mall of Asia.

Delgado gig

From one inspiring man to another: businessman **Roberto Delgado** just celebrated the 30th anniversary of his Transnational Diversified Group (TDG), an Asia-based business conglomerate of more than 30 dynamic member companies that employs and deploys an eye-opening 12,000 people (both land-based and sea-based) worldwide.

At the musical dinner affair at the Harbor Tent at Westin Philippine Plaza, members and family of TDG provided the entertainment, with singers from all departments wowing the crowd.

The affair also bestowed the Ambassador Antonio C. Delgado Achievement Award to Labor Secretary **Patricia Sto. Tomas** for being the driving exponent of Philippine maritime industry's global competitiveness and a champion of OFW's.

TDG evolved from humble beginnings as a Manila-based shipping agency to a global powerhouse, placing thousands of Filipinos in jobs in all parts of the world, all the while working with pride and dignity throughout its 30-year history.

Many of the highly skilled Pinoy seafarers who are the backbone of most cruise liners and cargo/oil ships began their careers at TDG.

By the end of this year, TDG will open the country's most advanced maritime school with its sister company, NYK Line, one of the world's oldest and largest shipping companies.

More than a business investment, the NYK-TDG Transnational Maritime Academy will soon rise in Carmeltown, Calamba City, Laguna. The maritime school is a way to "give back to our Philippine community and help our young Filipinos to rise and improve their quality of life," as **Robbie Delgado** said at the cornerstone-laying ceremony with no less than President **Macapagal-Arroyo** and former President **Fidel Ramos** as their guests of honor.

It is entrepreneurs like Henry Sy, Robbie Delgado and others, whether operating taipanic institutions or just humbly starting home businesses, that we should thank for the resilience and economic growth in our country, despite, in spite, and with spite at the politicos who seem to be unable to lead us anywhere.

We do not have to be a taipan to contribute our own individual entrepreneurial stories, each of which collectively add to the economy.

In the entertainment and PR industry, for example, **Keren Pascual** has elevated the standard of innovative marketing. He may be a one-man business, but his excellent marketing ideas have attracted the likes of Bench, Nestea, Coca-cola and Department of Tourism to use his services for their products.

For his birthday, the wonderful innovator celebrated an all-out '70s dinner party in Red in Shang Makati.

Poetry night

As I prepare to celebrate my silver jubilee with the rest of my Assumption HS '81, I think about the years that have gone by and how we should all try to leave a positive impact on the various communities we interact with, just like these great businessmen.

In closing, I'd like to invite all poetry lovers to Alliance Française de Manille's "Printemps des Poetes," an evening of poetry on March 16, at 7 p.m., at AFM Bldg. along Nicanor Garcia Street.

In celebration Francophone Week, the evening will call on poets to display their artistry. Sponsored by the French Embassy and the Embassies of Cambodia, Canada, Romania and Switzerland, everyone is invited to join this cultural event.

E-mail the author seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph

CLOSE friends Patrice Ramos-Diaz, Keren Pascual, Richard and Lucy Gomez, and Ben Chan

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo and former President Fidel Ramos at the NYK-TDG Maritime Academy ground-breaking with NYK Line honorary chair Jiro Nemoto

LABOR Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas

RUFFA Gutierrez

SM family Caroline Sy and Felicidad Sy

Dynamic TDG CEO Roberto Delgado with lovely wife Helen and son Rashid

ARTIST Anita Magsaysay-Ho, Nori Yamazaki and Nellie Delgado

TDG family singing during the 30th anniversary of Transnational Diversified Group

TDG special guests Sen. Richard Gordon, TDG CEO Roberto Delgado, Charles Penry of Etihad Airlines and Dave Balangue of SGV

MASTERMINDS president Sunny Ku, Julie Jalandoni and Johnny Cobangkiat of Ace Hardware

MEZZA Residences launch. SM development president Rogelio Cabuñag, Henry Sy Jr. and Elizabeth Sy

PDI-SUN VILLAGE-SEAIR PHOTO CONTEST

BEACH FIGHTERS, submitted by Ammiel M. de Leon. "No camera tricks, just an unadulterated zany shot of Allan Nadal and Ammiel de Leon by director Ryan Arce on a recent Boracay trip with friends."

CHILDREN OF A GRACIOUS GOD, submitted by Clemente D. Fajardo Jr. "While others would spend a fortune to savor the sea and sand of Boracay, these children call the island their home whole year round. They must be children of a gracious God!"

CHILDREN OF THE SUN, submitted by Arnold C. Jumpay, who writes, "Afternoons 'til sunset will always be the time for children, local or visitors, to play and frolic along the beach."

KIDDIE BEACH MODELS, submitted by Angel Antonio. "Believe it or not, when Daddy and I shouted: 'Kids, picture!' all five of our little angels simply gathered themselves and projected as if they were professional talents!"

Boracay scenes

THE BEST OF BORACAY PHOTO contest draws to a close in two weeks.

The standouts this week join the previous weeks' winners as finalists for the top three prizes. They may claim their Nivea Sun Gift Packs from our marketing department on any work day (call 8978808 and ask for Hazel Soriaga).

The Best of Boracay Photo Contest is open to all photo enthusiasts who have personally visited Boracay.

If your photo entry is in print, it must be 8" x 10" in size. Sorry, no prints will be returned. If in digital form, it must be in 200-resolution jpeg format and unaltered.

Submit the photo with a short caption describing the experience, where in Boracay and when the photo was taken, as well as the following information: your name, address, mobile phone number, land line phone number and e-mail address.

Send your entry to the Best of Boracay Photo Contest, Lifestyle c/o Philippine Daily INQUIRER, 1098 Don Chino Roces Ave. cor. Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, or e-mail to travelpromo@inquirer.com.ph

Entries must be received at the PDI office if hand-delivered or via e-mail by March 24. Mailed entries must be postmarked March 24, 2006.

Entries will be judged by a panel consisting of representatives from the Philippine Daily INQUIRER, Sun Resorts Inc., Fuentes Publicity Network Inc. and professional photographers.

Winners must submit the negatives or CD files of their winning entries before claiming their prizes.

The first-prize winner gets round-trip tickets for four to Boracay courtesy of Seair; five days-four nights stay in Sun Village Resorts inclusive of accommodation and breakfast; and Nivea Sun gift packs.

The second-prize winner gets round-trip tickets to Boracay for two courtesy of Seair; four days-three nights stay in Sun Village Resorts inclusive of accommodation and breakfast; and Nivea Sun gift packs.

The third-prize winner gets round-trip tickets for two to Boracay courtesy of Seair; three days-two nights stay in Sun Village Resorts inclusive of accommodation and breakfast; and Nivea Sun gift packs.

For complete contest details, e-mail travelpromo@inquirer.com.ph

Limited Edition
The summer fresh feeling is back!
SUNSILK

THE YEAR'S GRAND BLOCKBUSTER TEXT RELOAD!

BIGTIME RELOAD

sun
P100
IDD
10
sun CELLULAR PREPAID
50
150
300
500
P50 7 days
24/7 TEXT UNLIMITED
sun
P150 30 days
24/7 TEXT UNLIMITED
24/7
P100 7 days
CALL & TEXT UNLIMITED
P350 30 days
CALL & TEXT UNLIMITED
P100 12 days
DAYLITE CALL & TEXT UNLIMITED
sun XPRESS load

GET 100 FREE TEXTS WHEN YOU RELOAD!

Enjoy 100 FREE texts for every P400 worth of load accumulated within one promo month!

Experience FREE bigtime texting to your friends on Sun and other networks! Go ahead, LOAD MORE and GET MORE!

MECHANICS:

1. Every P400 accumulated load that a subscriber makes within a promo month entitles him to 100 Free Texts, which may be used for both Sun-to-Sun and Sun-to-other-networks texts.
   - For example, P400 accumulated load in March will give you 100 Free Texts and P800 accumulated load in March will give you 200 Free Texts.
2. Promo months are: March 1-31, April 1-30 and May 1-31, 2006. Reloads made within a promo month will not be carried over to the next promo month.
   - Reloads in March cannot be counted in April.
   - Reloads in April cannot be counted in May.
3. Subscribers can accumulate the P400 reload from any combination of Regular Call Cards, Xpress load, 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited, 24/7 Text Unlimited, 24/7 Text Unlimited Lite, Daylite Call and Text Unlimited, IDD Top 10 call cards and Regular e-PINs only.
4. Load purchased via SMS, Convert-a-Load and monthly deposits from SureLoad Subscriptions are disqualified from this promotion.
5. The subscriber will receive a text message with a 14-digit number string not later than 4 days after accumulating P400 reload. The 14-digit number string will expire if not loaded within the defined period. The 100 Free Texts is valid for 30 days from the day it is loaded.
6. The 100 Free Texts is cumulative but not the validity period. The longer validity shall apply.

Unlimited Services apply to local Sun-to-Sun calls and texts.

See posters for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0953 Series of 2006.

sun CELLULAR PREPAID

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday
NATIONAL
CLASSIFIEDS
The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P245 per column centimeter P75 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays 12:00 noon Day before publication
Sundays 12:00 noon every Thursday

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph Main Office: Pasong Tamo, Makati City
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F Atrium Bldg., Makati Ave., Makati City
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
St. Anthony's Bldg., Aurora Blvd., Quezon City
☎ 9129008-11 Fax 9129011
SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F Trinity Bldg., 636 T.M. Kalaw St., Manila
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
Alabang, Muntinlupa City
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2006 G1

The Inquirer Classifieds' new pride.

STARTING TODAY, MARCH 12, 2006, THE PHILIPPINE DAILY Inquirer launches its Sunday National Classified section.

Sunday National Classified advertisements continue to become a valuable information source for the purchasers and sellers, bringing all these ads together on Sundays will give you more value for your money by providing a bigger and more attractive market place.

The new Sunday National Classifieds is a special pullout section of Inquirer, the newspaper with the largest circulation nationwide. The Inquirer also has a nationwide readership of 55% across all demographics.

This will surely benefit our advertisers from the greater mileage that our Sunday edition has to offer, starting with the successful Job Market Section. Inquirer promises to provide its advertisers and readers the best service for their Classified Advertising requirements and ensure better results for their products and services.

SANYO DENKI PHILIPPINES INC.

JOB VACANCIES

We are a manufacturing firm at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines. We need the following senior managers to manage and attend to the needs of our production and assembly lines for our FAN MOTORS; UNINTERRUPTIBLE POWER SUPPLY; AND, SERVO MOTORS:

PRODUCTION DEPUTY DIVISION MANAGER

Must have at least 10 years of extensive experience in a manufacturing firm and has a comprehensive knowledge in the production of Fan Motors, Uninterruptible Power Supply and Servo Motors. The job encompasses not only production phase but also the entire processes as well, including quality assurance of finished products and raw materials; purchasing system for production requirements; and, Planning and Process Control. The incumbent must also be knowledgeable in the operation of different production machines and familiar with its maintenance as well.

PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT MANAGER

Must have at least 5 years of comprehensive experience in all processes for the production of Servo Motors. The incumbent must also be knowledgeable in planning and process control for servo motor systems using IZUMI production control software. Successful applicant shall also assume the duties and responsibilities of a Production Control Department in charge in the planning and control for production of Servo Motors.

PRODUCTION ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT MANAGER

Must have at least 5 years extensive work experience in Production Engineering, Facilities Maintenance and Management Information Systems. We expect applicants to have at least a working knowledge of an industrial Robotic course. The work experience should be in the field of maintaining production machines / equipments; facilities including building maintenance; and, computer hardware and software. The bulk of the duties and responsibilities of this Manager is in the repair and maintenance of all the machines and equipment that are being used in the production of fan motors, uninterruptible power supply and servo motors.

All applicants for the above positions should be able to read, write and speak Nihongo.

Interested applicants should send their resume with 2X2 picture and credentials to:

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT CENTER
BLDG. 225, Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority
Subic Bay, Freeport Zone

Accounting Staff

Requirements:

- Male or Female w/ pleasing personality, 25 to 35 years of age
- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- Work experience related to auditing & bookkeeping is an advantage
- At least 3 years experience in handling full set of accounts including taxation
- Computer literate (Excel & Word)
- Analytical & can work w/ minimum supervision
- With excellent oral & written communication skills & a team player
- Can deal w/ all levels and can easily adapt to different environment

Sales Engineer

Requirements:

- Male or Female w/ pleasing personality, 25 to 35 years of age
- Candidate must possess at least Bachelor's/College Degree in related field or equivalent
- Computer literate, at least 2 years experience in the related field
- Presentable & must possess good communication skills both oral and written
- Willing to do field work and can work with flexible hours
- Must have high level of creativity in putting together sales proposals and solutions
- Excellent negotiating and presentation skills

PLEASE SEND YOUR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ TO:

1788 E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City
Telefax: +632-724-9063 or +632-724-8997
or email to: gipc@pldtdsl.net

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Negros Oriental
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Office of the Chairman

INVITATION TO BID

The Republic of the Philippines, through the Department of Education (DepED) is a recipient of an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) in the amount of JPY 7.21 million to finance the Secondary Education Development and Improvement Project (SEDIP). It is intended that part of the proceeds of the loan will be utilized for eligible expenditures for the new construction of a **Three-storey, Fifteen Classroom Building with Three Toilets** at **Negros Oriental High School**, Daro, Dumaguete City, Province of Negros Oriental.

JBIC requires that bidders and contractors as well as the DepED, under contracts funded with JBIC ODA Loans, observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of the contract. In pursuance of this, JBIC (i) will reject a proposal for award if it determines that the bidder recommended for award has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for the contract in question, and (ii) will recognize a contractor as ineligible, for a stated period of time, to be awarded a contract funded with JBIC ODA Loans if it, at any time, determines that the contractor has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for or in executing another contract financed by JBIC ODA Loans or other Japanese ODA.

Bidding is open to all Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) registered contractors or joint venture contractors with valid license, general building in category and eligible to enter a contract based on award. Schedule of issuance of bidding documents, pre-bid conference and opening of bids, are as follows:

Activities	*Schedules*	
Issuance of Bidding Documents	Date	March 13-20, 2006
	Place	Provincial Engineer's Office, Capitol Area, Dumaguete City
Pre-Bid Conference	Date	April 26, 2006
	Place	Governor's Office, Capitol Building, Dumaguete City
	Time	10:00 A.M.
Opening of Bids	Date	May 5, 2006
	Place	Governor's Office, Capitol Building, Dumaguete City
	Time	10:00 A.M.

The complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested eligible bidders upon submission of a Letter of Intent addressed to the BAC Chairman of Negros Oriental, Atty. Ismael P. Martinez and payment of a non-refundable fee of P3,500.00 to the Treasurer's Office, Capitol Building, Dumaguete City.

Submission of bids together with all the documents required in the bid documents must be delivered to the aforesaid venue and dates. All bids will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of all bidders or their legally authorized representatives.

(Sgd.) ATTY. ISMAEL P. MARTINEZ
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI–March 12 & 19, 2006)

DepED
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Bids and Awards Committee
Division of Apayao

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

March 12, 2006

To All Qualified Bidders:

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the *Japan Bank for International Cooperation* towards the cost of financing the Third Elementary Education Project (TEEP) and intend to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments for civil works component of the project. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the *Guidelines for Procurement under Japan Bank for International Cooperation Loans.*
2. The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the **Completion of One (1) Unit – Two (2) Storey Division Office of Apayao.**
3. Bidding documents may be purchased at the **Department of Education, Bids and Award Committee (BAC) Secretariat** with address at ***Luna, Apayao*** for a nonrefundable fee of Php 2,000.00 for each set from *March 20, 2006 – April 10, 2006.* Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a security in the amount of 2.5% of total bid price, and shall be delivered to the **Bids and Awards Committee, Department of Education** on or before *April 11, 2006* at the Department of Education, *Division Office, Luna, Apayao.*
5. A pre-bid conference will be held, to clarify all queries and questions, on *March 27, 2006* at the same address. Also a site visit will be conducted on the afternoon on the same date.
6. The committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids which may found disadvantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) MARIE CAROLYN B. VERANO
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee
DepEd-Division of Apayao

(PDI - March 12, 2006)

Republic of the Philippines
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila
Human Resource and Administrative Department

INVITATION TO BID FOR THE SALE OF VARIOUS SERVICE VEHICLES

The Securities and Exchange Commission, through its Disposal Committee invites qualified bidders/buyers to bid for VARIOUS OLD/USED SERVICE VEHICLES on an "as-is-where-is" basis, as follows:

ITEM No.	DESCRIPTION	QTY UNIT	MINIMUM BID PRICE
1.	Nissan Cefiro, 1997 Model A 32-4 Door Sedan	1	P232,300.00
2.	Honda Civic, 1997 Model 1.6 Liter Vti-V-TEC, 4 Door Sedan 1600 valve	2	P201,000.00/unit
3.	Toyota Corolla XE (HI) 1.3, 4-Door Sedan	2	P121,000.00/unit
4.	Toyota FX 1.5, 4 Cyl	1 1	P70,714.29 P84,385.71
5.	Mitsubishi L-300 Van	1	P73,846.15
6.	Honda Motorcycle, TMS 125	3 1	P8,437.50/unit P4,687.50

The said vehicles may be inspected during office hours, Monday to Friday at the SEC Parking Lot behind the SEC Building, Florida Street, Greenhills East Subdivision, San Juan City.

Bidding documents may be obtained at the General Services Division, Human Resource and Administrative Department 4th Floor, SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills, Mandaluyong City, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Two Hundred Pesos (P200.00) starting March 12 to 21, 2006 from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. For further details, please contact Assistant Director Romeo O. Dauag at Tel. No. 727-3320.

Pre-Bid Conference will be on March 22, 2006 at 2:00 P.M. at the CRMD Conference Room, 2nd Floor, SEC Building.

Deadline for submission of bids shall be on March 28, 2006, 10:00 A.M. at the General Services Division, 4th Floor, SEC Bldg. and immediately thereafter bids will be opened at the CRMD Conference Room, 2nd Floor, SEC Building.

The Securities and Exchange Commission reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formalities therein and to award the Sale to a bidder whose proposal as evaluated is most advantageous to the Commission.

The SEC also assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnity any bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of their bids, nor does it guarantee that any award will be made at all.

March 10, 2006.

(Sgd.) BENITO A. CATARAN
Chairman
Disposal Committee

(PDI – March 12 & 15, 2006)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given to the public that DN DISTRIBUTIONS CENTER, INC. with business address at Km. 14 Malagamot Road, Panacan, Davao City had lost PROVISIONAL RECEIPT SERIAL NO. 01751-01800. For the protection of our clients, any transaction entered into under said serial numbers will not be honored.

(PDI - March 12, 2006)

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council
HOUSING AND LAND USE REGULATORY BOARD

1898 - 1998 100 KALAYAAN

Board of Commissioners
RESOLUTION NO. 788
Series of 2006

AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE 2004 RULES ON REGISTRATION AND SUPERVISION OF HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS (Board Resolution No. R-771, S. 2004)

WHEREAS, a number of groups of homeowners associations have expressed appeals for the amendment of certain provisions of the 2004 Rules on Registration and Supervision of Homeowners Associations;

WHEREAS, the Board deems it to the best interest of all homeowners associations to re-examine and reconsider the proposals;

WHEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners hereby resolves to amend the following provisions of Board Resolution No. R-771, Series of 2004:

Rule IX

"**Section 1.** ***Segregation.*** – A group of members of a homeowners association may, ***after conducting among themselves a referendum with prior notice to the affected mother homeowners association and the Regional Office of the HLURB,*** form a new association by filing a verified petition with said Regional Office x x x."

Rule XII

"**Section 3.** ***Homeowners Association books to be kept.*** – Every homeowners association shall keep and carefully preserve a ***book or*** record of all transactions and minutes of all meetings of members, or of the board of directors or trustees, in which shall be set forth in detail the time and agenda for holding the meeting, how authorized, the notice given, whether the meeting was regular or special, if special its object, those present and absent, and every act done or ordered done at the meeting."

When books or records are required to be produced and examined upon proper petition before the HLURB, a certified true copy of the same shall be produced by the Association Secretary."

Rule XIII

"**Section 1.** ***Annual Report.*** – Within forty five (45) days from the close of the accounting period, the homeowners association shall submit to the Regional Office the following books and documents concerning its operations during the preceding accounting period:

a. General information sheet; and,
b. Most recently audited financial statement.
c. Certified true copy of the membership book and the minutes book as certified by the association secretary;]"

"x x x"

Rule XV

"**Section 1.** ***Treasurer's Bond. – The treasurer of the homeowners association, before assumption of his/her office, shall file a treasurer's bond to guarantee the faithful and effective performance of his/her duties and responsibilities.*** The premium of such treasurer's bond may be sourced from the operating expenses of the homeowners associations in an amount equivalent to the association's cash assets and its equivalent at the time of assumption to office of the officers concerned."

"**Section 2.** ***Failure to post treasurer's bond.*** – If the treasurer of the homeowners association fails to post the required bond, he/she may nonetheless perform his/her official functions, except that disbursement of the funds of the homeowners association shall be at the instance of the board of directors or trustees."

Rule XVI

"**Section 5.** ***Involuntary Dissolution.*** – A homeowners association may be dissolved by the Regional Office upon its prior investigation or the filing of a verified complaint, after proper notice and hearing, on the following grounds provided by existing laws, rules and regulations:

a. ***When the homeowners association has violated a provision of an act for its creation or renewal;***
b. ***When it has forfeited its privileges and franchises by continuous inoperation or non-user for a period of at least five (5) years;***
c. ***When it has committed or omitted an act which amounts to a surrender of its corporate rights, privileges, or franchises;***
d. ***When it has misused a right, privilege or franchise conferred upon it by law or when it has exercised a right, privilege or franchise in contravention of law."***

APPROVED, 11 January 2006, Manila.

THE HONORABLE NOLI L. DE CASTRO
Vice-President of the Philippines & HUDCC Chairman

AUGUSTO B. SANTOS
Director General, NEDA

ROMULO Q. FABUL
Commissioner and
Chief Executive Officer

Undersecretary, DOJ

TERESITA A. DESIERTO
Commissioner

EDUARDO R. SOLIMAN, JR.
Undersecretary, DILG

JESUS YAP PANG
Commissioner

JOEL I. JACOB
DPWH

Attested by:

CHARITO B. LANSANG
Board Secretary

(PDI - March 12, 2006)

POEA 24-HR HOTLINES 722-1144 ● 722-1155
SEND YOUR RESUMÉS INSTANTLY VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com JOB

CEBU PACIFIC
WE'RE GOING YOUR WAY.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given to the public that CEBU PACIFIC has **not** authorized, accredited nor certified **CAPT. LEVY SAREN** and/or his company **FS STANDARD PHILIPPINES** General Aviation Services as an accredited buyer of scrap Cebu Pacific aircraft and parts. Cebu Pacific also denies having issued any spurious documents bearing the name and logo of Cebu Pacific aircraft DC. Likewise, Cebu Pacific also denies any participation in any falsified A/C Registration Certificates bearing our retired A/C non-existent tail numbers.

Furthermore, Cebu Pacific also denies any liability or responsibility whatsoever arising from or in connection to the aforementioned accreditation and certification of Capt. Levy Saren and/or FS Standard Philippines.

It is requested that any party who has been shown or given any of the abovementioned documents to immediately contact Cebu Pacific.

(PDI- March 5, 12 & 19, 2006)

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Negros Oriental
CITY OF BAYAWAN
SPECIALIZED BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
www.bayawancity.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The City Government of Bayawan, through its Specialized Bids and Awards Committee, invites prospective suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid on the following project:

Bid Number	Name of Project/s	Approved Budget for the Contract	Source of Fund
06-025B	Integrated Bus Terminal (Phase-1)	P28,141,263.01	General Fund

Project Location/Delivery Area : Bayawan City Warehouse
Contract Duration : 12 working days upon receipt of Purchase Order

The complete schedules of bidding activities are as follows:

ACTIVITY	DATE/S
Advertisement, Posting of the invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid	March 12, 2006
Issuance of Bid Documents	March 15, 2006
Pre-bid Conference	March 20, 2006
Deadline for the submission & Opening of Eligibility Requirements (for Non-Accredited Suppliers) & LOI for Accredited Suppliers (Specialized BAC Office)	March 30, 2006 (2:00 p.m.)
Deadline/Opening of Bids (Specialized BAC Office)	March 31, 2006 (10:00 a.m.)

Complete sets of Eligibility Requirements and Bid Documents will be available for issuance at the Specialized BAC Office, 2nd Floor, City Hall Bldg., Bayawan City (Tel. (035) 531-0800) upon payment of the prescribed non-refundable fee.

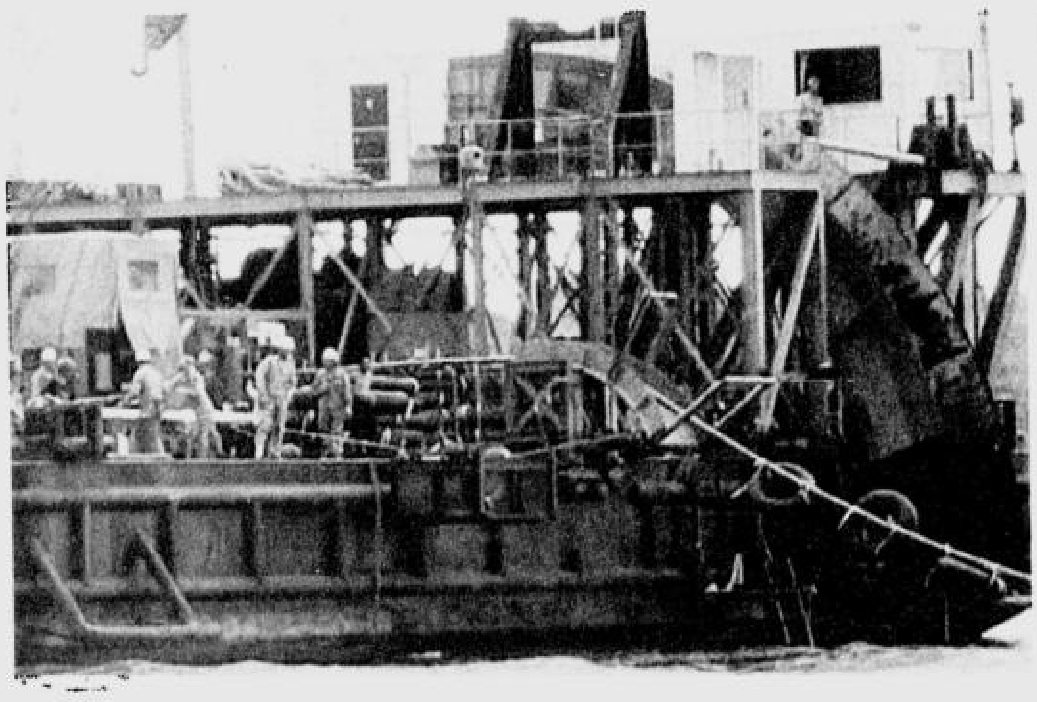
Prospective Bidders shall duly accomplish eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals and submit the same in 2 (two) separate sealed envelopes on or before the date indicated above.

The Specialized Bids and Awards Committee reserves the right to accept or reject all bids or part thereof, to waive formality therein or to accept such bids considered most advantageous to the City Government of Bayawan.

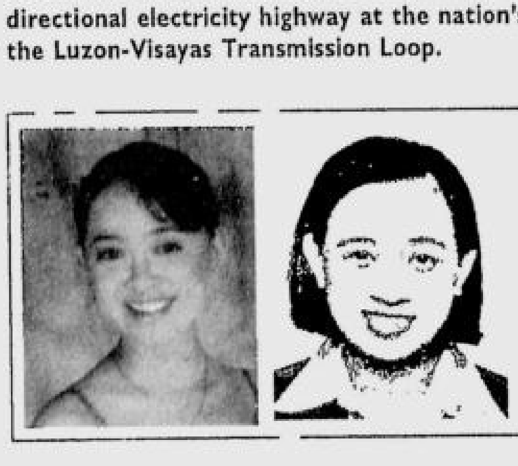
(Sgd.) Atty. VICTORIANO D. ALABASTRO
Chairman, Specialized Bids & Awards Committee

PDI--March 12 & 19, 2006

Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.
JOB Market
www.jobmarketonline.com



TransCo completes submarine cable works for P149-M Boracay power project. The National Transmission Corporation (TransCo) successfully completed the laying of the submarine cable for the 69-kilovolt Panay-Boracay Interconnection Project - a joint undertaking of TransCo and the Aklan Electric Cooperative (AKELCO) which will secure power supply in the country's world-famous tourist destination with clean and more reliable energy. A total of 1.6 kilometers of submarine cable had been laid to connect TransCo's future cable terminal stations (CTS) in Caticlan and in Manok-Manok, Boracay which are being fast-tracked for completion by the end of this month or early April. As provided in a memorandum of agreement signed with Akelco, Transco will also supply materials and equipment for two substations to be built by Akelco. The electric cooperative will also erect, install, and energize a one-kilometer overhead distribution line connecting its Caticlan substation to TransCo's Caticlan CTS. Akelco will also build another substation in Boracay adjacent to TransCo's Boracay CTS. The P149-million Panay-Boracay Interconnection Project is the first phase of TransCo's Small Island Submarine Interconnection Development (SISID) Program which aims to establish a bi-directional electricity highway at the nation's western corridor and eventually complete the Luzon-Visayas Transmission Loop.



PAMELA AND DIANE FRANCESCA B. Garces, daughters of Danilo H. Garces and Ma. Theresa B. Garces, are among the graduating batch of 2006. Diane will be earning her BS Degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management from St. Paul University while Pamela is in high school from St. Scholastica's College.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education (DepEd)
REGION VIII-EASTERN VISAYAS
DIVISION OF BILIRAN
Secondary Education Development
and Improvement Project
Naval, Biliran

DepED
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date : March 9, 2006
Loan No. : PH-P200
Project ID : 3-BIL/FUR-06-6Sa

1. The Republic of the Philippines through the Department of Education (DepED) has received a loan from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), in Japanese Yen towards financing the cost of Secondary Education Development and Improvement Project (SEDIP). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contracts for the supply and delivery of Furniture to Selected Secondary Schools in the Philippines.
2. The DepED through the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery of school furniture for classrooms, science laboratories, industrial arts, libraries, faculty and guidance rooms of the different secondary schools in the Division Office of Biliran, following the schedules below:

Particulars	Date	Time	Venue
Issuance of Bidding Documents	March 15-22, 2006		Division Office of Biliran Naval, Biliran
Pre-Bid Conference	March 24, 2006	2:00 pm	
Bid Opening	April 7, 2006	2:00 pm	

3. Bidders are required to submit bid for the complete quantities of all the furniture items intended for the selected schools in the Division of Biliran, per schedule of requirements of the bidding documents and as summarized below:

School Name	Address	Furniture Package
Cabucgayan NHS	Cabucgayan	Library furniture (1 package) Guidance room furniture (1 package) Faculty room furniture (1 package)
Cabucgayan NSAT	Cabucgayan	Classroom furniture (4 packages)
Almeria NHS-Baluarte Extension	Almeria	Classroom furniture (6 packages)
Viga NHS	Maripipi	Industrial Arts furniture (1 package)
Higatangan NHS	Naval	Science Laboratory furniture (1 package)
Naval NHS		Classroom furniture (2 packages) Science Laboratory furniture (1 package)

4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain complete information about the proposed project upon submission of a Letter of Intent and acquire the bidding documents from the Division Bids and Awards Committee (DBAC) Office at telephone number (053)500-9279, or through the SEDIP-NPMO Office at telephone numbers (02) 637-5833 / 632-0456.
5. Bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders starting on the date stated in paragraph 2 upon payment to the Cashier of the Division Office of a non-refundable fee of Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) only.
6. Sealed bids, together with the bid security of equivalent percentage to the total bid amount as specified in ITB-7 page 5 of the Instruction to Bidders, must be delivered to the Division Office at the time, date and place as indicated in the above paragraph 2. Said bids will be opened immediately for reading in public in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.
7. The Division BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informally therein and award the furniture packages to one or more bidders.

(Sgd.) JOSE R. GAVIOLA
Chairman, Division Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – March 12 & 19, 2006)

INVITATION TO BID

The Bank will foreclose and auction the following:

Property Location and Description	*Area (sq.ms.)*
Makati City: Vacant lot located along M. Santillan St., Barangay Arnaiz) (Pio del Pilar) North, Makati City	329
Bulacan: Two (2) parcels of land located at No. 331 Balagtas-Bustos Provincial Rd., Mataas na Sampalok, Brgy. Bulihan, Plaridel, Bulacan	4,536
Improvements: 1) A one-storey production building 2) A one-storey canteen/maintenance building 3) A three (3) – two-storey building 4) A two-storey guard house/barracks building	2,686 (aggregate)
Cavite: 3 contiguous lots located along the Provincial Rd., Barangay Alulod, Indang, Cavite	58,338 (aggregate)

Brokers Welcome
For particulars, please call 811-5807 to 14
Look for Gee / Cirila / Dannie

(PDI – March 12, 19 & 26, 2006)

ROTARY MATCHING GRANT PROJECT

The Rotary Club of Rizal Centro's Matching Grant # 58227 has just been completed last Feb. 7, 2006 which involved the donation of 61 CPR Manikins to the Rizal Chapter of the Philippine National Red Cross which were in turn shared with 21 other PNRC Chapters in the country for their safety/emergency training courses. Shown in photo are: president Domingo D. Ordoñez of the Rotary Club of Rizal Centro D3800 turning over a Baby Manikin to Ms. Imelda Santos, acting Chapter administrator of the PNRC Rizal Chapter and Rizal Centro's Charter president Manny Reyes turning over an Adult Manikin to PNRC Rizal Chapter chairperson Adelina Rodriguez. Witnessing the turnover ceremonies is Dr. Tess Arguelles, PNRC's Regional director for the NCR and Luzon areas. Matching Grant # 58227 is a gift from The Rotary Foundation; the Rotary Club of Rizal Centro D3800 and the Rotary Club of Fort Worth South of Texas D5790.

Explosive Sales Presentation workshop set

ARE YOUR SALESPEOPLE CONTENT WITH AVERAGE performance? Challenge them to be explosive! Enable them to rise above the level of themselves. Let them attend this important sales seminar slated on March 28, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. at Holiday Inn Galleria Manila, Ortigas.

The seminar will have as its resource lecturer Mr. Joey Reyes, a seasoned consultant on sales and sales management. He is a frequent resource speaker of sales conventions / rallies and in-house training.

This seminar is sponsored by Porter and Miles, Inc., a premier training company on business, management, marketing, sales and human resource development, with office address at Suite 2502-C Tektite Tower East, Ortigas Center. Call Mercy at 638-7719/20 for more information/reservation. Limited seats only.

CLASSIC CHARACTERS INC.
FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING:

•SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

25-35 YRS. OLD AT LEAST 3 YRS. WORKING EXPERIENCE IN SAME CAPACITY PREFERABLY IN THE FIELD OF WHOLESALE/ RETAIL/FRANCHISING
REQ. SKILLS: PROJ. MGT., EXCELLENT COMM'N BUILD TEAMS, ABLE TO HANDLE MULTIPLE TASK APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE STRONG LEADERSHIP BACKGROUND, CAREER DRIVEN, ACTION ORIENTED, 3 FULL TIME POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Interested applicants may apply personally with resumé at:

8 Felix Baes St., East Service Rd., Perpetual Vill.
Bicutan, Parañaque City
Tel: 837-7347 / 838-3982 Fax 837-4271
E-mail: canadian@pldtdsl.net

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

JANITOR – stay-in; high school grad.
SALES REPRESENTATIVES – high caliber, female, w/exp. in selling consumer products. Salary Php12,000.00
ACCOUNTANTS – w/ exp. in computerized acctg., familiar w/ latest BIR regulations. Preferably CPA. Salary Php15,000.00
BODYGUARD/DRIVER – Physically & mentally fit, 5'10" height, 5 yrs. experience in Metro Manila driving.

WINE SPECIALISTS
Call: 833-0153 / 831-6880

NEED CASH?
WE PAWN & BUY
$ WATCHES $
$ JEWELRY $
$ DIAMONDS $

HIGHEST APPRAISAL IN TOWN
WE WILL BEAT ANY GENUINE OFFER

8040484 • 8342886
8930618 • 7244374

All Inquiries Are Strictly Confidential

Everything Your Computer Needs?
Buy 1 Take 1
Intel Celeron 466 Package Promo
8,000php
15" monitor
Compaq Deskpro CPU
Mouse & Keyboard
i save computer

for more information visit our website at
www.isave.com.ph

Trigem Dreambook 9,400php
- 13.3" monitor
- PII 366 CPU
- 29.5cm x 22cm

Pentium III 700 Package 6,800php
- 17" monitor
- PIII700CPU
- Mouse & Keyboard

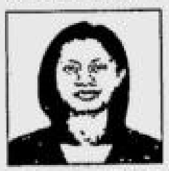
(Head Office) 928-8280
(Cubao) 438-7418
(Mandaluyong) 718-0671
(Gilmore) 412-5897
(Fairview) 428-68-32
(Shaw Boulevard) 717-1987
(Araneta) 716-6795
(Gilmore) 416-4117
(Mindanao Ave.) 454-3793
(Marikina City) 933-6068
(Novaliches) 418-8080
(Angeles City) 045-626-1487
(Davao City) 082-227-6799
(Bulacan) 044-673-3879
(Cainta) 647-5440

FOR SALE: BOILER

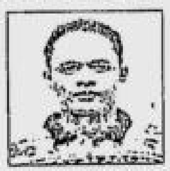
LAMONT 14 TON SUPER HEATER WATERTUBE DUTCH OVEN TYPE FURNACE INCL. TUBES, BRICKS, GATE VALVES & WATER LEVEL CONTROL BOILER DRUM TANK ALL INSIDE CONTAINERS.

SALE – P 1.5M
Call 0918-572-2413 ★ 534-7649

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



Generosa "Jenny" Abella



Prudencio "Jun" Osorio Jr.

Please be informed that Ms. Generosa "Jenny" Abella and Mr. Prudencio "Jun" Osorio whose pictures appear above are no longer connected with **SICCION MARKETING, INC.** A warrant of arrest has been issued to Ms. Abella for the crime of Qualified Theft as per case #05-241469, while another warrant for Estafa as per case # 04-228011 has been issued to Mr. Osorio. The company shall not honor any transactions coursed through them

If anybody knows their latest whereabouts, kindly contact Atty Elizabeth Pineda at Tel# 732-6771, CP# 0920-8013270 or SP02 Alex Ibe at CP# 0915-6322443.

(PDI - March 12, 2006)

TINDAHAN NATIN

AFFORDABLE GOOD QUALITY RICE AT TINDAHAN NATIN

Customers queue to buy affordable yet quality rice at the Tindahan Natin outlet which was recently opened at the BASECO compound in Tondo, one of the project's priority areas in Metro Manila due to its high poverty incidence. The Tindahan Natin Project is one of the component programs of the "Serbisyo Muna!", a government initiative to expand its delivery of basic goods and services to the people, especially the poor. Through the Tindahan Natin outlet, the government ensures that poor families get access to low-priced basic food items, especially rice and noodles. Well-milled rice from the National Food Authority will be sold at the outlet at P18 per kg and fortified noodles at P4.25 per pack for the fortified noodles, lower than the prevailing prices in sari-sari stores.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

• STD UTI CLINIC •
2178 MATRINCO PTAMO MKT
CALL 8175071 9am - 6pm

GARMA CLINIC
VD SPECIALIST
VD GONORRHEA, WARTS SYPHILIS, STD, HERPES
ADULT CIRCUMCISION
Painless, Bloodless
SKIN DISEASES
ALLERGIES RE-CURRENT
UTI, ALMORANAS,
ERECTION PROBLEMS
INFERTILITY/IMPOTENCE
MOLE/CYST/SCAR REMOVAL
KELOID/PAP SMEAR
COMPLETE LABORATORY
Garma Bldg., No. 8 Purdue St.,
Cubao, Q.C.
OPEN 9 AM to 6 PM MON. to SAT.
TEL. NOS. 4392706
4373898/9139474

ARCHITECTS

Plan / Const / Renov 4146646

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

DirectMaidYayaIntlCookH-boy 7289060

VMI MANPOWER 896-5431
MAID MASIPAG OR UR MONEY BACK !

A'A MAIDS/YAYA 4386920

All Around Maid Cook 8956702

Good Maid Yaya Cook 4214652

GREAT MAIDS,DRIVERS,ETC. •552-9245/729-5838•

Help Agency 5328503 • 5325834

ALL ARND MAID YAYA COOK
773 8998 • 09278486112

H'WORKING MAIDS 421-3828

NEED MAIDS 4328194

TrustedMaidsYayaCookC'giver 7572069

Yaya, Cook H'maid 8957507

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

•Cheap 09163416775 / 9260424

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Hospital Offices Sale St. Lukes 09177313562

ONLY FEW UNITS LEFT
P3M
Own a Brand New Townhse
Teachers Village
4BR 4TB 2car garage
4396921 / 9131737
09209020858 / 09273767064
0917-5335635

COMMERCIAL

RETIRO QC
Comml 28M 4352186 -7242629

South Super
Hi-way Bicutan Exit 3sty Comml Bldg. 4352186 -7242629

COMML/RESDL

New Comm'l
3-storey
Townhouse
corner F. Roxas
6th Ave. Caloocan
733-7767

PANSOL, CALAMBA
100 bed hotel 3 hotspring pools complete facilities. DOT accredited CP 0917 8126243

QC HOTELS 450M 7500SQM MAKATI PALACE 5M FA72SQM QC CONDO 820T 09173415216

600sqm Beverly Hills P 2500/sqm or best offer e-mail:m_salanghotmail.com

HOUSE & LOT

1211 Don Pedro / Espiritu nr. LA SALLE TAFT Bnew 4BR 5TB 2Carpt FA236 633-0092

BETTER LIVING SUBD . PQUE T- 8242943; 8234806 & 7761361

BF 3BR/TB w/Mds Rm H2O C2 Aprciate 4.5M 809-0961 Rose

Bnew 4br3tb jacuzi 3.2M 9487112

BUNGALOW - 3BR 2TB 218M² P3M NEG.,GOODWILL SUBD. II, SUKAT,PARANAQUE CITY TEL 658-5751 TESSIE OFF. HRS.

FOR LEASE
1. OFFICE SPACES
Legaspi / Salcedo Vill. Makati
2. STORE SPACES/ WAREHOUSES
Dasmariñas, Cavite
Alabang-Zapote Rd. Las Piñas
3. CHEMICAL TANKS
Bauan, Batangas
4. RESIDENTIAL HOUSE
Dasmariñas Vill. Makati City
ALL RENTAL - NEGOTIABLE
Call Tel. No. 892-2681 to 96
ARIEL / DING / REXIE

FOR SALE
House & Lot
Jamaica Heights Subd.,
Los Baños, Laguna
299 SQM 2 BR
w/ SWMNG POOL
3.2 M
Call: 0917-8913165

HOUSE & LOT

BIG DISCOUNT
2BR - 2.8M 94sqm
PHAUS-4.9M 113sqm
30% Downpayment
70% - 2 yrs to pay 0% Int.
ASIAWEALTH TOWER
Near L Salle / St. Scholastica
Call 522-59-50 / 0917-8307643

Cubao 72 Anapolis 9122194

Don Antonio Hts., QC
LA617m² FA344m 7BR 4T&B 4Prkg 931-2109 6pm-Onwards

FORT BONIFACIO HOUSE & LOT 5bdrm, 5t&b, powder rm, ofc /lib, game rm, maids rm, driver rm w/ t&b, 3-car automatic gar., 400m² l/a, 610 f/a, w/ hot & cold water supply, video-entry phone, Php. 18M nego 889-4525 Weena

MAHOGANY PLACE
Lots, H&L, Thse C5 nr Fort 1.5M-14M Nr McKinley Hills 4-5br 10% DP or 3Yrs No Int or No DP 10mins Fr. Ayala 0917-8169849

MARIKINA RANCHO3
240m² 3.5M 09175779341 RINA

MILAN CAMELLA HOMES 3Stry FA210m² LA78m² P1.4M VILLA TOLEDO SUBD LA117m² 4Bdrms 2T&B P2.6M Vic/Gigle 8903461 loc 27 or 25

NEAR PWU/PCU
BnewThse/3stry/3br/maids/3tb /1grgeP3.940M 8903461

OWNR LEAVNG HSE 9280672

P1.1M 2BR 2STRY 8054686

Pque Multi 2.4M nr Duty Free ONLY 15%DP 0919-4046184

•RUSH 720m² NEAR SM FAIRVIEW 5.5M 9612125 9198716291

RUSH SALE @ ZONAL VALUE
OWNER LEAVING ; 240M
VILLA VERDE SUBD NOVA
481 COR LOT BGY HILLS SUBD
ALONG SUMULONG HIWAY
ANTIPOLO ; 400SM FLR AREA
2STORY BLDG ON 262 SM
LOT DIMASALANG ST BEST
4DORM AGENTS 7% COMM
CALL SHARMAINE @
3665854 OR 3674878

RUSH SALE ALABANG TIERRA NUEVA LOT 350 SQM 8000 / SQM / NET CONTACT 0917-8002313/ 932-5933 DINNAH

•TEACHERS VILL QC•
Bnew Twnhse 18 Mahabagin T-9132701 09189356366

UPS1 Pque nr Mktl 5.5M 8245267

VILLA ANGELICA LA 279 m² FA 157m² 4Bdrms 3 T&B P1.6M Vic 8903461 loc 27

SIKATUNA QC
5.5M 4352186 - 7242629

BF Resort Las Pinas LA 500 SQ w/pool nice Loc 09198229162 / 09153023860

CONDO/TWNHSE

1 MCKINLEY RFO 09192109151

2471 LEON GUINTO STUDIO TYPE NEAR DLSU ST. SCHO CONTACT VINIA 0917 8972468

2BR MEGAPLAZA 634-1212

2stry Bnw 3BR3TB 2CG 4.9 to 5.3M neg 159 Sct. Limbaga Ext. 438-8754 0922-8530530

4BR with grge nr Ateneo UP Champion Suprmert Sikatuna Vill QC 9215328,09166406838

4sale 2BR Mkt Tuscany 0917-3006474

•VALENCIA HILLS NEW MLA BNEW 3BR UNITS W/AMENETIES 134.5-182.5SQM W/PARKING P5.9-P9.1M CASH/TERMS •FREE 2ND PRKNGSLOT 4CASH BUYERS •0916-7917131

ASIAN CONDO 1ST CLASS AMENETIES 10%DP TO MOVE-IN RFO 0915-5060337

CONDO (MANDA, PASIG,ORTIGAS & TAGUIG) 0919-2189817

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

Brand New Fully Furnished Condominium Type Near Chinese School Market LRT Restaurant & Chinatown Contact 2522312 2448297 09178901881 09228901881

EASTWOOD CTY 7M 6341212

GREENBELT RADISSONS Condo P3M 34.30m² 0915-2114248

★BORACAY RESORT CONDO Fully Furnish w/income of 1M Annualy 0917-6428542

Makati Bangkal 2-BR Condo Unit Sale 1.2 Rent 8.5 Call 09209471223 / 920-1118

MALAYAN PLAZA Std 3BR RFO 5346610 8188569 Jojo

MANDA NEAR SHAW
BnewThse/3stry/3br/3-4tb maids1-2grgeP3.695M8903461

NEW MLA 4BR 3TB 634-1212

•ORIENTAL GARDENS• std 1,2,3BR 2M&up or 10,000/mo. www.orientalgardenstower.com 524-2760/0917-8248178 Edwin www.bayboulevard.com

RESORT TYPE CONDO P2M RFO 49M² 0928-6288940

RITZ TWR CONDO Mktl 270m² 4BR w/TB Md's Qtr. P15M Neg. DBO 0917-8278714

RUSH SALE! Mkna Rancho2 P4.8M 3Bdrm 0917-5363933

SALCEDO VILLAGE
LE METROPOLE BLDG, MAKATI 3BD 3BA+MAID QTR 179 SQM 2 PARKING. 5STAR FURNISH 4% BROKERS 091-888-4448

St Francis Twr 6341212

Std Garden Is. QC 47m² 7002700

TAGAYTAY SUNRISE CONDO STUDIO CHEA 1.3M CALL MRS. CAMACHO 9215479

VACATION HOUSE IN METRO 10% Down Move In Rent2Own Nr Makati-Pasig P'que New Resort Condo 0927-2401098

VIVANT FLATS
Studio & 1 bedroom ready for turn over Filinvest Corp City, Alabang CP 0917 8126243

VV6 Condo 3BR 2TB w/Attic Nice Excellent For Newly Weds Brokers Welcome 919-8773675

VVERDE 3BR 2M 912-4323

RENAISSANCE 3000 2/3BR
88 CORPORATE CENTER
AIC ROBINSONS 1BR-SALLY
8963036 / 09157843128

884T ORTIGAS Area 10%DP P6.8T/mo 0918-990-1045

BRITANNY T/house Promo
Blk Lot 16 6.6M now P5.7M
Blk Lot 20 6.6M now P5.7M
Blk Lot 14 7.0M now P6.0M
Portofino la522 6.8M now5.9M
Cel no. 0917-8413300

APARTMENT

3Dr Apt 207m² Gatchalian Village Las Pinas 0921-6722866

4 UNIT APT. 210SQM METRICA SAMPALOC 0920-6446157

LOT

297sqm 7895876 Bk Rckwell

5 Contiguous Lots 1,659m² Sra Dela Paz Subd, Bgy Sta. Cruz, Antplo along Sumulong Hiway T-6417636

600-660m² 20T/m² 8093888

836SQM COR LGV NEAR UP CALL JO 8231704

AAV 812SQM 18T/M² 7708446

ALABANG & CARMONA
1447m² Alabang Rotonda.Munti 1227m² alng Govs Dr, Carmona CP 0917 8126243

FARM LOT 4HAS NUEVA ECIJA ALNG D' RD 6287644 09198261254

★TAGAYTAY OVERLOOKING
★15%DP 5yrs 0%Int. w/Free
★Membership Worth P425T
★0917-6428542 • Pls. Call

Lot 365m² Nr SM Farview Cruz Vill Subd. 0921-6722866

Lot 4 Sale Araneta Malabon 230sqm (0920)9251627

MARVI HILLS LA258m² P2,248/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

METROVILLE SUBD 333m² P4,054/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

PARKPLACE 120m² @P5.750/m² PARKPLACE 149m² @P5,023/m²ST. CHARBEL 371m² @P2,399m² DON BOSCO EXEC HTS 128m² @P2,900 /m² Vic 8903461 LOC 27

PROGRESSIVE VILLAGE 12 LA200m² & 200m² @ P3.850/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

Puting Kahoy, Batangas
5.6Has P250/m² Neg. 900-0049

RAINBOW VILLAGE V LA216m² Brand New House 3Bdrms 2T&B P2.2M Vic 8903461 loc 25

RANCHO VISTA SUBD 613/m² P2,121/m² Vic 8903461 Loc 27

Res Lots Brgy Saperya Bngonan Rz Con:8435555

Rush - Vacant Lot 288 sqm Greenland Subd. Cainta MM Magnolia St. Lot 16 Blk 11 Contact Bhelle Heiner Tel. 02-5470564

• SAN PEDRO •
LOT ONLY - 573SQ.M
P3,000 / SQ.M. (NEG)
TEL 658-5751 TESSIE OFF. HRS.

SOUTHPEAK P5,000/m² 240m² Vic / Gigie 8903461 loc 25 / 27

Southwood cor nr. Clubhse & Gate 9.8M DBO 0922-8046476

TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS LOT 986m² w/financing 8894525 Weena

• TAGAYTAY •
LOT ONLY - 1,000 S.Q.M.
P 6,000 / SQ.M. NEG.
TEL 6585751 TESSIE OFF. HRS

TANZA, CAVITE
Rush sale owner abroad 1340m² Bonita del Mar Subd, Capipisa, Tanza CP 0917 8126243

MEMORIAL LOT

LYOLA MRKNA 09063572306

FARM/FISHPEN/ RAWLANDS

Balsik Hermosa Bataan 24,312m² 300/m² w/47 Mango Trees & Hse Clean Title DBO Miles 09216722866 09287849699

RANCH 4SALE 450 HAS. ALONG HIWAY FULLY-FENCED W/ WINDMILL CALL ROSEMARIE TEL 4158570 & 09163320373

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000 m² Vic/Gigie 8903461 loc 25/ 27

FACTORY/WHSE

CUBAO WHSE w/ OFF 250SQM 3Phase P30T RENT 9412675

WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY BLDG HOUSES READY FOR DEMOLITION 951-1366 ; 0927-7115000

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

3BR 2TB 2-sty Big Lawn P35T /mo Kapitolyo 9114117

EXEC TOWN ROW VVERDE1 PASIG 450SQM 2STORY 5BR 3CAR GRGE 4TB 687-2161/3 TESS / MARISSA

PROJ.6 • 3BR 2TB Grge P13,500 9289141 0915-5633951

SUCAT PQUE 8201453 / 7164216

CONDO/TWNHSE

2 Condo Units
@ 60m² 3BR 2TB Manggahan Village Call 668-1529 Fe

CONDO FOR RENT
18th Floor CITYLAND WACK WACK ROYAL MANSION
561 Wack Wack Road East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City
• 3 Bedrooms
• 100 sq m. • Furnish
Pls. Call: MS. Merly/Maybel
Tel. No 532-5275 • 534-3812

MAKATI AVE CONDO 12T UP STUDIO 1BR22T 2BR35T 09223320910

MAKATI/ORTIGAS 1-2-3 BRS P15-125T/mo. 889-4796; 6475

•NICE NEW F / F 19THOU MKTI. 9198716291 ; 9612125

NOVA SMILE CONDO 1BR 3,700 CALL MRS. CAMACHO 9215479

PQUE THS 1BR 8TH 8017079

QC NR ROB 5T UP 09228135590

Semi Condo 1BR Kitchen CR Terres Tel. 533-8536 P4500/mo.

Semi-furn Ortigas Area 1BR 1 Mds Rm 2TB 1pkg 20/F Ren 3000 Bldg. 7249330/9328

Std Garden Is. QC 47m² 7002700

T'hse Rosario Pasig 4BR 2TB 2Grg 15T 6550691, 0922-8046476

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

TOWN HOUSE FOR RENT
1100 G. Araneta Ave., Q.C. Near SM Center Point Sta. Mesa
• 3Bedrooms w/Attic
• 280 sq.m. floor area
• Newly Renovated
• W/24 hours security
Pls. Call: Mr. Fernandez/Merly
Tel.: 5325275, 5326965, 5343812

1 & 2BR Nr.PGH 5634007/5891978

CUBAO, COLUMBIA 2BR Furn P18TH/MO SAVELL 646-1603

APARTMENT

P5.5; 6.8T 22 Congressional Visayas 9267433;09282352266

Pasig 3BR 2TB 632-1739 Res/Ofc

Studio nr UP 5T T4362272

3BR 2CR PVT grge 8980435

BNEW CLASSY 2BRM GRGE 20MIN TO ATENEO 10MIN TO EASTWD P8500 T 6553617

APT/COMM'L. T-5894299

FOR LEASE

4BR OFC RES 5MIN WALK TO DLSU 2227 Taft Ave 5215470

BURGUNDY Plaza Katipunan QC frnt Ateneo FA50m²(res) 75&110m² ideal for SPA GYM Call Center 9289541;7361925

WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

Whse-Comml-Ofc 1Blk w/ Tel 1363 sqm Maysilo Malabaon agents welcome 09209560128

ROOM & BOARD

Enjoy Life, Own Rm
w/Pool, FFurn, Fresh Air, Good Neighbors, Jogging, Contmporary Design, Access. to Pasig & Mkti, Singles Only, Ghills Garden Hts, Call&See 0917-5323299, 749-2617

Kamias Rd 200-350/Day FAN 550/Day A/C Furn. 436-8050

Kamias Rd 3.6T Nice 4368050

PHILAM HMS SHARED FACILITIES 5T SOLO 3T /HEAD DOUBLE 9287125

PHILAMQC BIG RmTB 9265582

BEDSPACE

Mkti nr Ayala 1T Lady 8974697

New Bedspaces 4 Ladies Con: 8435555 or 09178986809

Resdn'l/Clean/Furnis/Male 2PerRm/SingleBd T897-3770

BUSINESS RENTAL

3STRY DTACHD TWNHSE IN GUARDED COMPND 3BDRM 4TB MAIDS RM NEAR NAIA / BACLARAN 0920-9011917

96M² 2ND FLR & 1500M² 3RD FLR CASABELLA BLDG ROCES COR QUEZON AVES TEXT CELFON 0920-9011917

MAKATI nr BUENDIA
38m²/148/185m² 8903461 ofc hrs

LOAN & MORTGAGE

•Busines •Doctor •Car •OFW Seaman •Real Est 524-3197

FINANCING- EASY FAST VERY PRIVATE CONVENIENT H/L CARS BUSINESS Gigie / Ernie 8903461 loc 25/23

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

MALATE MLA 526-8048/49

OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE IBM PLAZA EASTWOOD CITY 500SQM NEWLY RENOVATED FULLY FURNISHED CALL 911-9309 • 421-6440

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

Condo Sale/Rent
Front La Salle Taft Call 750-9819 • 0917-3943042

CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

RUSH SALE/RENT Citibank Ctr Paseo 271 sqm. Ofc Suite Call 8137320 /09170542072

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

'00 Corolla GLI A/T A-1 345T 721-1877

'00 Revo LXV A/T 395T 7211877

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

2004 ASIA COMBI MINI BUS P450K Vic/Gigie 8903461 loc 27 or 25

89 NISSAN 99T 83 FORD TELSTAR 68T GUD COND. 09228135590

NSSN EXLTA '01 ALCON T 8428272

STAREX 2001 DSI ROOF RACK 535T CALL 8249614

MOTORCYCLE

2005 HONDA SUPER 4 VS 400cc P180T 09186973900 GREG

BIG BIKE 750cc Tenere DR250cc Suzuki KTM300EX Jaime • 0917-5323247

BOATS

COASTWISE TUGBOAT 500H.P For Rent / Sale T-8242943; 8234806 & 776-1361

CARS

MB230E 124 Body 9324907 1st Owned Gud Condition

BERYLLE CARS
Araneta Ctr Cubao nr All Mall finance Trde-In consignment Pajero Trooper Lite-TownAce Delica Serena Largo Estima Safari Surf Fargo RVR MU Terrano Odyssey Suzuki Elf Canter 4-6W etc slot rental 439-1117 / 0917-8342020

•01' GSX P390 T 09173908413

91 COROLA ORIG 115T 2480663

91 FEROZA NICE 118T 2487718

1996 MBENZ 8963036 SALLY

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

•Carlines Rent a Car•
Vans, Coaster, Bus, Xpdtn F-150 4Whl Benz U-Drive Car
813-1975 • 8131976

CARS INT'L. RENTAL SRVS.
U-Drive Cars & Vans
896-0856/8908915

Cheap Van 9330311;9348411

★KATRINA RENT A CAR★
www.katrinarentacar.com
'05 URVAN ESCAPADE,
'05 L300 VAN, '05 VIOS
'05 F. EVEREST
(02) 6375997 • 09178543786

CRV Innova Starex 9483535

Revo 5342853 / 0916-7740634

REVO w/driver 9272821

Van 0917-5444721, 642-4405

VANS 9226702 9214535

CAR LOAN

1% Auto Easy 5344441

1% AUTOLOAN 788-0361

1% Car Lending 656-0140 United Tree Car Loan Corp.

1% CARLOAN 373-6519

1% Easy Car Loan 4112547/48

1% w/out taking car 5315577

1.5% Easy Car Loan 3748765

1.5% easy carloan 7815352/55

1.5% w/o taking Car 7226942-43

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3732061/82

2% W/O TAKING CAR 7880163-84

2% W/O TAKING CAR 7723810/12

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/out taking car 7262780

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BILLIARDS

Sale/Rental/Service 8014494

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT PIANOS : TERMS -T7213124

PETS

DACHSHUNDS PUPS 2000 6362890

Exclnt Dog Sch 0919-2050952

AMABANK
THE LARGEST USED CAR LOAN BANK IN THE COUNTRY TODAY
MEMBER:
AMA GROUP OF COMPANIES
NO. 1 RURAL BANK / NO. 1 CAR LOAN BANK
2004/2005 NATIONAL SHOPPERS' CHOICE AWARDEE
MOST OUTSTANDING RURAL BANK / CAR LOAN BANK
2004/2005 PHILIPPINE MARKETING EXCELLENCE AWARDEE
TOP CAR LOAN BANK
2005 NATIONAL CONSUMERS QUALITY AWARDEE
USED CAR LOAN PROMO
SPECIAL INTEREST
RATE AS LOW AS
7% p.a.
ACCEPTABLE YEAR MODELS
1991-2005
Also available:
AMA BANK
CAR - LATERAL LOAN
Cash Loan Using Your
Car as collateral!
Fast Processing and Check release.
For more details Pls. call at Tel. Nos.
413-5777 / 372-6698 / 372-6526 / 373-9913
416-8144/416-8145/373-3901 loc. 8302/8303/8220

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PETS

GREATDANE PUPS 8257340

NEOPOLITAN PUP 09205894868

PCCI
353rd & 354th
ALL-BREEDS DOG SHOW
Tiendesitas en Frontera Verde
Ortigas Pasig City
March 25 & 26, 2006
UNDER INT'L. JUDGES
Ms. JULIE FRANKS (AUST)
Ms. LINDA BUCKLEY (AUST)
STRICTLY NO ADDENDUM
SPONSORS
ALPO DOG FOOD
EUKANUBA DOG FOOD
NATURAL PET CORP PHIL
ROYAL CANIN DOG FOOD
HILLS SCIENCE DIET

PETS

SHITZU STUD 3T 4120256

WANTED TO BUY

A NAME YOU CAN TRUST!
MANILA WATCH EXCHANGE
BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
& OTHER SWISS WATCHES
DIAMONDS / JEWELRY
HI-APPRAISAL/FAST CASH
REPAIR/POLISH ANY WATCH
T#804-0484 • 834-2886

'PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE'
WE BUY USED
SWISS WATCHES
SECONDO 2F GLORIETTA 1 / 8940282
SWISS WATCH LOANS
LOW 5% INTEREST
AGENCIA DE MAKATI 889-7956

BUYING ROLEX
SWISS WATCHES BEST PRICE
7269687 • 0917-8884040

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late JULITA C. SANTIAGO was extrajudicially settled by her heirs as per Doc. No. 122; Page No. 25; Book No. 61; Series of 2006 before Atty. Richard L. Anolin Notary Public for City of Manila
PDI-Feb 26, Mar 5&12,2006

Notice is given that estate of late Conrado Valdenarro Quintero, Sr. was extrajudicially settled by his heirs as per Doc 611 Page 123 Book XIII Series 2006 before Notary Public Dulcisimo G. Hinanay, Jr. of Quezon City
PDI-March 5, 12 & 19, 2006

Notice is given that the estate of the late FLORO PUNZALAN of Cardona, Rizal has been extrajudicially settled by his heirs as per Doc. No. 115, Page 23, Book III, Series of 2006 of Notary Public Andrew V. Ferrer of Cainta, Rizal
(PDI-March 5, 12 & 19, 2006)

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT THE ESTATE OF THE LATE MARCELINO CRUZ & JUANA G. FRANCISCO WAS EXTRAJUDICIALLY SETTLED BY THEIR HEIRS W/ WAIVER OF RIGHTS PER DOC. 184, PAGE 37, BOOK XLIII, SERIES OF 2006 NOTARY PUBLIC REYNALDO BERNARDO OF RIZAL.
(PDI- FEB. 26, MAR. 5, 12, 06)

INVITATION TO BID "AS IS WHERE IS"
Damaged Motor Vehicles
2005 Mazda 3, 4dr sedan / XTU-711
1997 Honda Civic 1.6, sedan / URR-593
1998 Toyota Corolla, 4dr sedan / WFB-132
2005 Toyota Vios/ZAH-908 (scrap-to-metal)
For particulars, call **Philam Ins. Co., Inc.**
Dick Cariño, Tel. # **878-54-57**

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late EVANGELINA L. CASANOVA was extrajudicially settled by her heirs as per Doc. No. 468, Page No. 95, Book No. XXI, Series of 2006 Before Atty. Eduardo E. Dela Cruz, Notary Public of Makati City.
PDI-Feb. 26, March 5 & 12, 2006.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Wilfredo D. Cerda was extrajudicially settled with waiver of rights by and among his heirs as per Doc 1172, Page 235, Book 52, Series of 2006 before Notary Public Atty. Nestor C. Rivera for Angono Rizal.
(PDI-Feb 26, March 5, 12, 2006)

Notice is hereby given that the late Leonila Nacnac Calaunan has been extrajudicially settled by her heirs as per Doc. #161, Page #34,Book #II, Series of 2006 before Notary Public Atty. Corazon G. Figuerres of Las Pinas City
(PDI Feb. 26, Mar.5&12'06)

Notice is hereby given that the state of the late ANASTACIO O. OBILLE was adjudicated to his surviving wife only heir DEMETRIA OBILLE by means of Public Documents executed on March 7, 2006 and ratified before Atty. E.F. Facinabao, Notary Public for & in Taguig City & entered into his Notarial register as per Doc#50 Page#10 Book#XII Series of 2003.
(PDI-March 12, 19 & 26, 2006)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ESTATE OF THE LATE JESUS GRUTA LAREZA HAS BEEN SETTLED AMONG THE HEIRS UNDER A DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH QUIT CLAIM DOC. NO. 80, PAGE NO. 16, BOOK NO. VI, SERIES OF 2006 IN THE NOTARIAL REGISTRY OF ATTY. ARMANDO G. QUINTO OF QUEZON CITY (PDI-MARCH 12, 19, 26, 2006)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Ruperto A. Rapanot has been extra- judicially settled by his heirs before Notary Public Danilo O. Leyble of Antipolo City as per Doc.# 168, Page# 34, Book# V, Series of 2006
(PDI-Feb. 26, March 5, 12, 2006)

Notice is hereby given of the loss of Petron Stock Certificate of Nita Milagros T. Segovia with Stock Cert. #977210 for 50,000 shares. If no contest received, new cert. will be issued.
(PDI-March 5, 12, 19, 2006)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that the following PSBank stock certificate no. 000022067, 000039275, 000040189, 000042862, 000042863, 000043877 issued to Natividad Dugtong were declared lost. If no contest is received, new certificates will be issued.
(PDI- March 5, 12 & 26, 2006)

PLS B ADVISED THAT LPCI FORMS R LOST
233274,233352,233353

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

NEED MONEY? FAST BUSINESS LOANS NO COLLATERAL 8956709

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

RTW summer wear inventory sale consign 09178830002

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CALL CENTER REP 0917-6421488 ACCEPTS UNDERGRAD

Computer Secretary
- in Pulilan, Bulacan. Knows Corel & Adobe 0927-9969005

COST ACCOUNTANT Wanted Acctng. Grad. No exp. nec. Handcarry/Mail Resume to:
HAPPY FEET SANDALS
Happy Feet cor. F. Manalo Sts. San Isidro, Cainta, Rizal.
Look for Eric or Elena.

FEM BILLING / OFC CLERK BUS ACCTG BANKING GRAD T 9313643

FLORIST/ARRANGER
0922-3003174 • 646-3487

HE MECHANICAL 4 CAT & VS TRUK 531EDSA C.C. 3647883

LADY DENTIST 4315434

Law Grad with experience Sal / Com Law Firm 4726951

NOTICE OF JOB VACANCY - Division of Makati MTCHR 2 - 30560; TCH 3 - 35011; TCH 2 - 34430, 34431, 34432 TCH 1 - 42201, 42228, 42232

OCCU THERAPY'S 9122007

OPTOMETRISTS 3033915Pasay

WANTED PHARMACIST 321 DASMARINAS ST (UNIT 901) BINONDO MLA 3PM-5PM

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT MAID-Direct Hire all-around Php5,000.00/mo. For 2 persons Call 8340153/8335904

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT YAYA-Direct Hire Preferably midwife, stay-in Salary Php 5,000.00/mo. Call 8340153 / 8335904

BOXMKR WANTED 9174644034

SALES PROMO GIRLS
White to Fair Complexion FOR Beauty Products 7248781 7272890

ENGL TEACHR 9174644034

Where you find the best.

JOB Market ONLINE
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

✝

*The Most Rev. Ramon C. Arguelles, D.D., Archbishop of Lipa,
The Most Rev. Salvador Q. Quizon, D.D., Former Aux. Bishop of Lipa,
The Clergy, Religious and Lay Faithful of the Archdiocese of Lipa*

Together with the Monfero-Balatibat Family

announce with joy and hope the triumphant crossing over from us to the everlasting love of the Father of our dear

REV. MSGR. ORLANDO M. BALATIBAT

on 10 March 2006 at the age of 66

Msgr. Orly's Assignments:

Parochial Vicar	*Biñan, Laguna*
Parish Priest	*Laurel (Bayuyungan), Batangas* *Lodlod, Lipa City* *Malvar, Batangas* *Lemery, Batangas*
Parochial Vicar	*San Sebastian Cathedral*
Episcopal Vicar	*Archdiocese of Lipa*
Vicar Forane	*Vicariate 6*
Professor	*St. Francis de Sales College Seminary*
Director	*Lipa Archdiocesan* *Social Action Commission*
Spiritual Director	*Apostleship of Prayer* *Missionary Catechists of the Sacred Heart*
Member	*Presbyteral Council* *College of Consultors*
Attached Priest	*Sto. Tomas, Batangas*

His mortal remains lie in state at the Resurrection Chapel of San Sebastian Cathedral, Lipa City. A Requiem Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, 14 March 2006, after which his mortal remains will be transferred to his birthplace, Liliw, Laguna.

He will lie in state at St. John the Baptist Parish Church until Friday, 17 March 2006. The Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated at 2:00 pm. Interment follows immediately.

Please omit flowers. Donations to the St. Joseph Seniorate, Home for the Aged and Sick Priests of the Archdiocese of Lipa, will be deeply appreciated.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

STEPHEN U. ONG

who passed away in the Grace of our Lord on February 27, 2006

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all those who offeed masses and prayers, sent flowers and messages of sympathy and who in countless ways, condoled with and comforted us in our hour bereavement.

We Lovingly Remember

13th Death Anniversary

of

ATTY. JOSEFINA SORIANO BILAR

who joined her Creator on March 12, 1993.

Holy Masses will be offered at the following churches today, March 12, 2006.

1. **Our Lady of Fatima Parish Church** – 8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
   Philamlife Village, Las Piñas City
2. **Sanctuario de Sto. Christo** – 11:00 a.m.
   Blumentritt, San Juan

May we request relatives and friends to join us in praying for the eternal repose of her soul.

In Memoriam

CHONA STA. ROMANA-NARCISO

12 March 1953 – 25 February 1988

Her son **Victor**; sister and brothers **Neni** and **Elfren**, **Chito** and **Nancy**, **Nelin**; nieces and nephews **Tanya**, **Roel**, **Aina**, **Norman**, **Christopher**, and all those dear to **Chona** request your continuing prayers for truth, justice and peace.

Chona will be fondly remembered at the 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. celebrations of the Holy Mass today at the Jesus the Divine Healer Parish, Tahanan Village, Parañaque.

Your support of the **Ma. Corazon Lucero Sta. Romana Commemorative Scholarship** administered by the St. Scholastica Research and Development Foundation will be most appreciated.

In loving memory ...

FIFTH DEATH ANNIVERSARY

ADOLFO R. RIVA

(February 2, 1926 – March 16, 2001)

Holy Masses are for his eternal peace and happiness will be offered on March 16, 2006 at the following Churches:

St. Michael the Archangel Church *Oas, Albay*	6:00 a.m.
Church of the Resurrection *Phase I, BF Homes, Pque.*	5:30 a.m.
Church of the Presentation of the Child Jesus *Pque*	6:45 a.m.
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish *13th Ave., Cubao, Q.C.*	7:00 a.m.
The Shrine of St. Joseph *Aurora Blvd., Proj. 3, Q.C.*	6:15 a.m.
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish *Proj. 4, Q.C.*	6:00 a.m.
Christ the King Church *E. Rodriguez Sr. Blvd., Q.C.*	6:30 a.m.
Immaculate Concepcion Parish *Lantana St., Cubao, Q.C.*	7:00 a.m.
Parish of the Holy Sacrifice *UP Diliman, Q.C.*	6:00 a.m.
St. John the Baptist Parish *Pinaglabanan, San Juan*	5:45 a.m.
Santuario de San Jose *Greenhills, San Juan*	7:15 a.m.
Mary the Queen Parish *Greenhills, San Juan*	6:00 a.m.
The Shrine of Our Mother of Perpetual Help *Baclaran*	5:30 a.m.
Minor Basilica of the Black Nazarene *Quiapo, Manila*	5:00 a.m.
Parish of St. Augustine *Baliuag, Bulacan*	7:00 a.m.
Shrine of the Holy Infant Jesus of Prague *Davao City*	6:00 a.m.
St. Michael Cathedral *Toronto, Canada*	5:30 p.m.

His wife **Lilia**; children **Ruby & Manny Gervasio**, **Rona Marie**, **Obet & Mary Ann** and grandchildren **Lianne**, **Dino**, **Jason**, **Teddy**, **Gigi**, **Roald**, **Reggie**, **Raiza**, **Gio & Pao** request relatives, friends, associates here & abroad and all those who lives he has touched to remember him in their prayers.

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising Hotlines:

HEAD OFFICE:
897-8808 loc. 514, 516; 899-4425;
897-2535; 897-8425 (Telefax)
CUBAO:
912-9008 to 11 (Aurora)
MAKATI:
892-5578; 811-4361; 811-4370
KALAW:
528-0213; 527-3342
MEGAMALL:
635-0219; 635-0220

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

EUSTAQUIO O. GOKIOCO

July 10, 1911 - February 28, 2006

express our heartfelt gratitude to those who condoled with us, offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers, cards and messages of sympathy, gave donations, visited and kept vigil, attended the funeral rites and memorial services, and who in countless ways helped and comforted us during our moments of bereavement.

Please continue to pray for his eternal repose in heaven.

*"God be with you on your journey home.
We will miss you dearly."*

THE HERITAGE PARK
FORT BONIFACIO

Let our Funeral Home & Crematory ease your burden

•Elegant & Spacious Chapels •US-made Caskets •Catered Meals
•Flowers by Holland Blooms •Imported Registry Books & Thank You Cards •Personalized Guest Information Cards
•Horse-drawn Hearse or Cadillac De Ville Hearse •Obituary Ads

845-2440 • 845-2334 to 38

Changing look amid changing times

MOST MORNINGS, SOME 2.5 MILLION PEOPLE drink their first cup of coffee while reading the Inquirer.

The newspaper with the largest circulation is a product of a long and fruitful relationship with its readers, newsdealers, advertisers and stakeholders. In the future, it hopes to put a copy of the Inquirer in every Filipino home.

Making it to the most desired newspaper in Classifieds Advertising is no mean feat for a 20-year-old publication such as the Philippine Daily Inquirer. And achieving this amid uncertain — even turbulent — political and economic times is testament to the faith of our loyal advertisers and readers have in the paper.

Fostering close relationship with clients is taken to the heart in the Inquirer. There is nothing like the personal touch in any business transaction.

The Inquirer Classifieds Advertising group is composed of a creative staff passionate with their work. We have somehow transformed the "conventional advertising practice" as just another option for our clients.

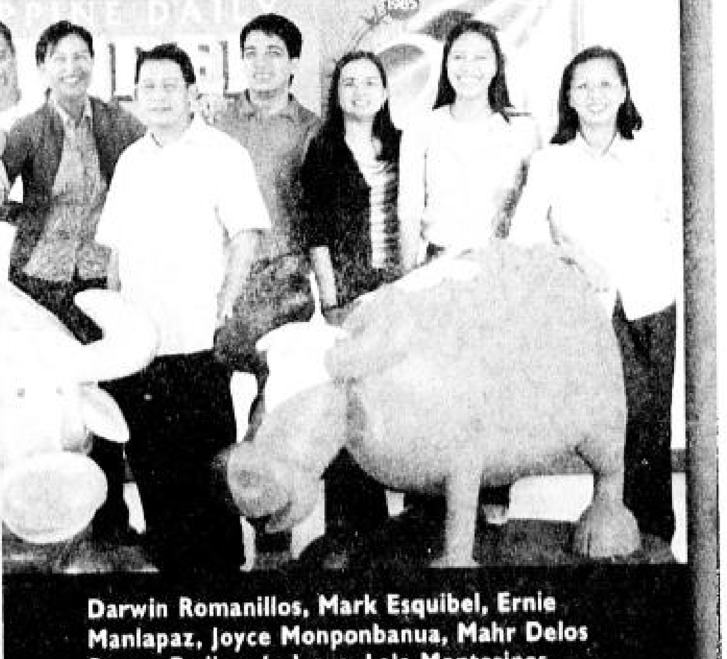
Like the balanced news that the Inquirer provides millions of readers everyday, its classified advertising group delivers fearless results.

CLASSIFIEDS: 'HAVE SOMETHING TO SELL, WILL DO'

(1st row) Imelda Limbo, Nanette Abad, Aileen Garcia, Liwayway Tabaranza, Adela Mendoza, Jocelyn Tabuso, Concepcion Lineses, Mahr Delos Reyes, Cristina Asuncion, Lourdes Diaz, Division Head Jesse Rebustillo, (2nd row) Veronica Fernandez, Arnold Gatdula, Patria Medina, Babes Good, Enrico Salazar.

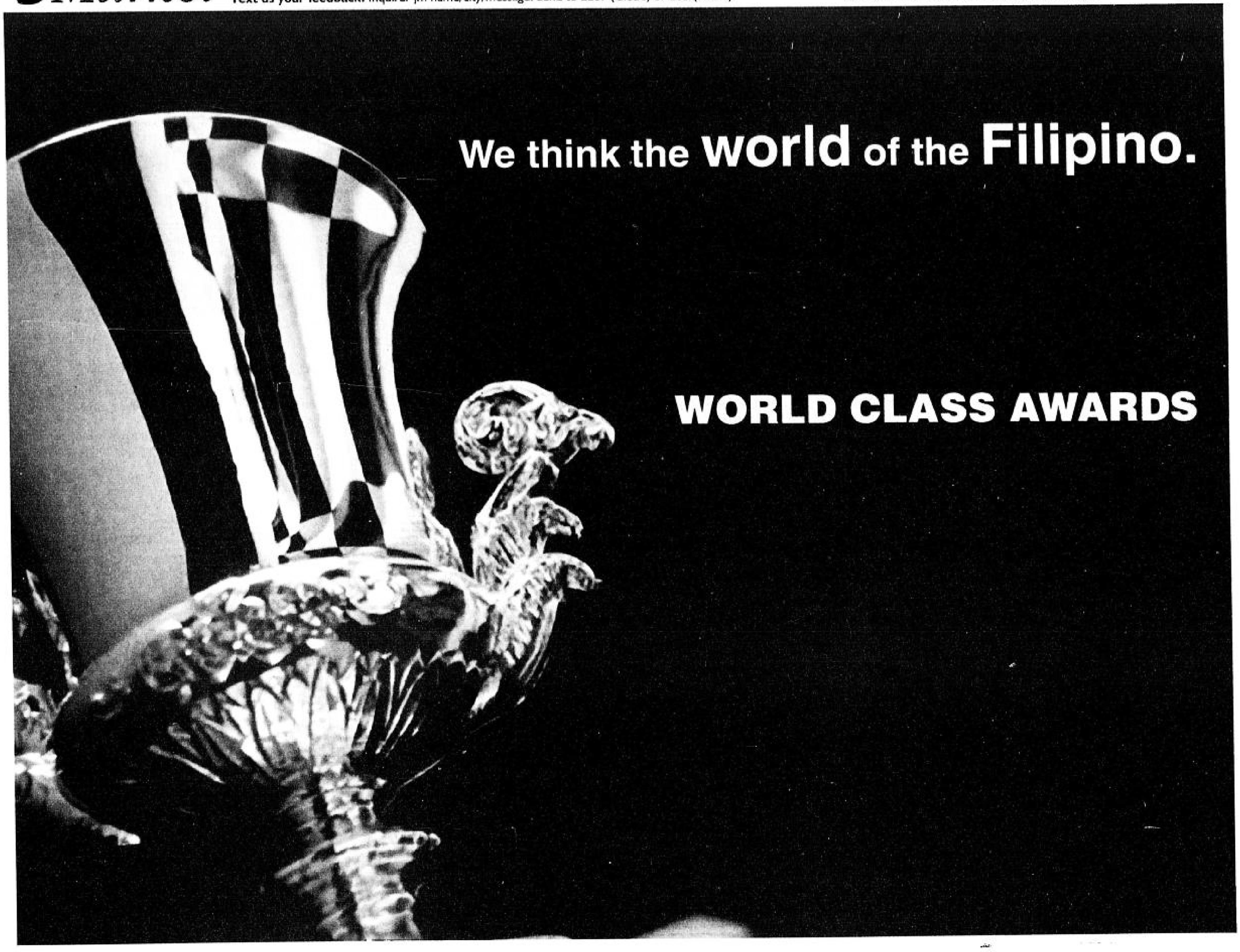
CLASSIFIEDS SALES: JUST A LINE OR TWO

Iris Desvarro, Vincent Añosa, Grig Montegrande, Arnel Santos, Randy Isaac, Carlo Mercado (kneeling).



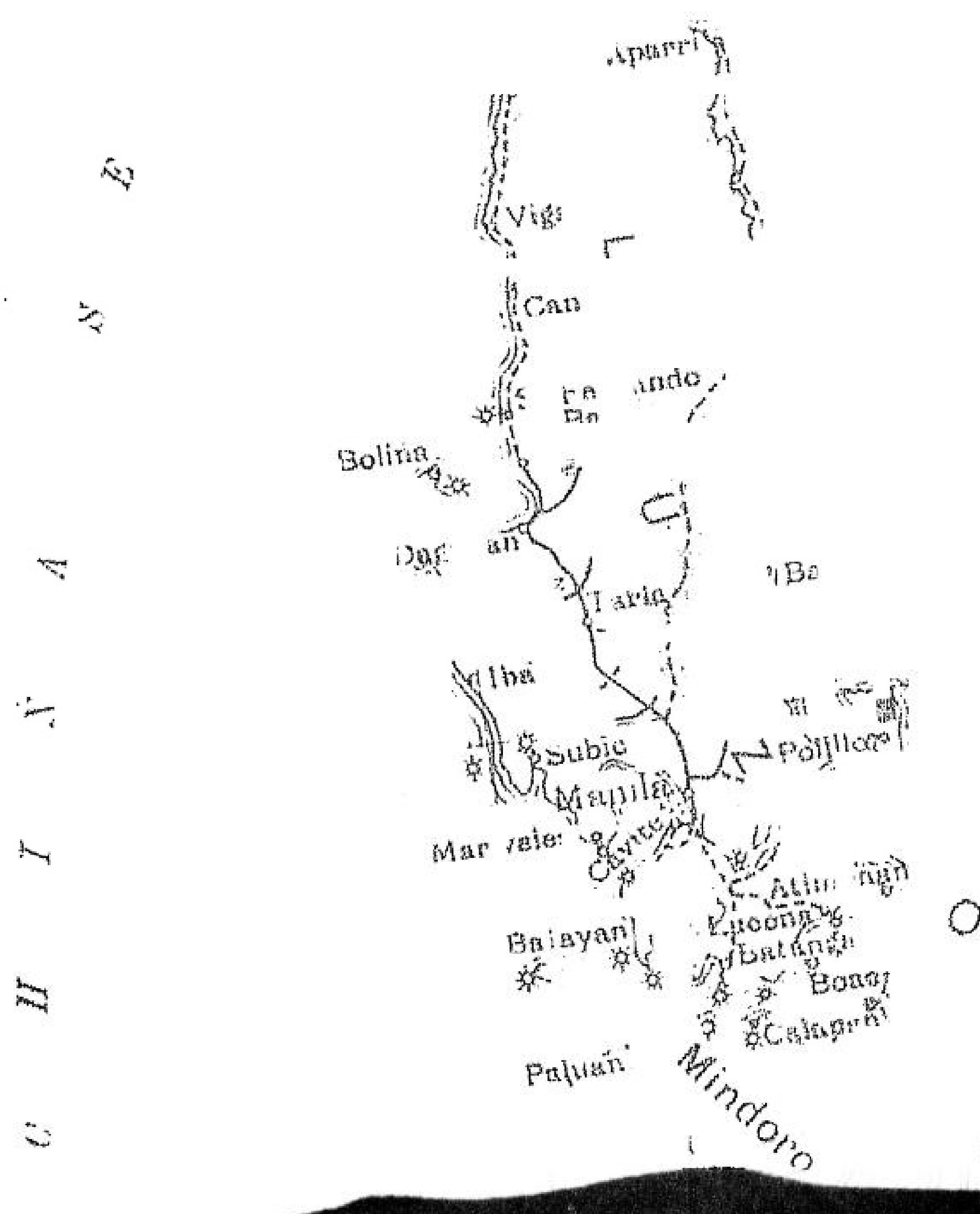
Darwin Romanillos, Mark Esquibel, Ernie Manlapaz, Joyce Monponbanua, Mahr Delos Reyes, Rading de Jesus, Lala Montesines, Romina Erandio and Gemma Villapando

JOB Market
SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2006
Philippine Copyright 1995
For jobseekers, log on to:
www.jobmarketonline.com
JOB Market is exclusively for job advertisements.
This special section comes FREE with your copy of the INQUIRER published every Sunday and distributed in key cities
RATES (E-VAT exclusive)
P230 per column centimeter every Sunday
DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Thursday 12:00 noon
Text us your feedback: Inquirer jm name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
Where You Find The Best.
★5



We think the world of the Filipino.

WORLD CLASS AWARDS



And the world thinks so, too.

Frost & Sullivan Award for Technology Innovation in the Field of Voice Recognition Technologies, Number 1 Provider of Domestic and International Teleservices from Customer Inter@ction Solutions Magazine, and recently named by Fortune Magazine as one of America's Most Admired Companies for the 6th Consecutive Year. Some of many awards that recognize Convergys' success in its pursuit of global excellence, success that Filipinos share.

Filipino Pride.

We are looking for individuals with passion for learning and drive for success.

INBOUND CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES

(Commonwealth, Makati, Ortigas, or Alabang)
Give answers, close sales, and provide solutions to customers of top companies in telecommunications, finance, and entertainment.

OUTBOUND CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES

(Commonwealth, Makati, Ortigas, or Alabang)
Gather feedback, do follow-ups, and facilitate collections among customers of leading organizations in research, finance, and roadside assistance.

TECHNICAL CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES

(Commonwealth, Makati, or Ortigas)
Troubleshoot technical problems, provide step by step instructions, and help customers of premier Internet service providers get back online.

INBOUND MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONISTS

(Makati)
Investigate caller inquiry through client systems, utilizing healthcare knowledge in responding to hospitals, physicians, and other medical providers. Candidates must have medical background.

Technical Customer Care Representatives may call 6318230 or email their resumes to hro@teledevelopment.com

Visit any of our sites from Monday to Friday, 9am to 6pm as a walk-in applicant and experience faster processing.

Commonwealth Office
Diliman Commercial
Center, #46 Don
Mariano Marcos Avenue,
Diliman, Quezon City
(02)931-3710

Makati Office
Convergys One, 6796
Ayala Ave., cor Salcedo
St. Legaspi Village,
Makati City
(02)857-7788

Ortigas Office
24th Floor, Robinsons
Equitable Tower, #4
ADB Avenue Ortigas
Center, Pasig City
(02)857-7688

Alabang Office
Block 44, Northgate
Cyberzone,
Muntinlupa City
(02)758-1688

U-Belt Office
Level 1, St. Thomas Square
1150 España Boulevard
cor. Padre Campa St.
Sampaloc, Manila
(02)735-2006

We offer an attractive compensation and benefits packages. Additional rewards and incentives are given to top performing agents. Applicants with resume, NBI Clearance, TIN and SSS number will be prioritized.

For information on how to apply, text CVG HELP to 2308 Globe/Touch Mobile or to 2951 Smart/AMP/Talk & Text.

CONVERGYS
Outthinking Outdoing

Lawson Software, a leading multi-national software products company is searching in the Philippines for leading software developers, support and management professionals capable of contributing to industry leading solutions for the world's premier corporations. If you are a professional desiring a stable long-term career rather than one-off projects, and wants to build quality software products for worldwide enterprises, do not hesitate to explore our career opportunities today.

LAWSON™

DISCOVER NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Software Performance Testing Engineer

- Experience in analyzing and tuning SQL database performance
- Experience in the use of performance measurement tools
- Experience in the use of load testing tools
- Experience in conducting methodical performance evaluations
- Knowledge of Performance Engineering concepts
- Knowledge of source code management and configuration management

Release Manager

- 5 years of relevant experience, including at least 2 years of release/project management and 3 years of development/integration/testing experience with complex software projects.
- Strong experience in Release Management, Quality Assurance and Project Management.
- Experience organizing, planning, and leading multiple projects from initiation through closing.
- Knowledge of SEI Capability Maturity Model - Integrated (CMMI), Six Sigma, ISO 9001:2000 etc.
- Experience in software development processes, models, lifecycles and methodologies.
- Familiarity with ERP applications domain.

Software Engineer - Integration

- Professional experience in one or more of the following: applicable programming languages, release engineering, software engineering process
- Knowledge of source software configuration management and change management tools and processes.
- Works with senior engineers to ensure project and design fit into the overall build, packaging, and deployment architecture.
- Analyzes and documents impact of the product or feature on other tools and processes.

Senior Software Engineer – Systems

- Five years of systems programming experience.
- Knowledge of object-oriented analysis, design, programming and tools
- Significant working experience using UNIX and/or Windows and programming languages such as C/C++, Visual C++, Java and EJB.
- Preferably with experience in COBOL, Prolog or any legacy system
- Proficient problem solving, interviewing and fact finding skills
- Strong analytical and technical skills, team work and organizational skills
- Self-motivation and discipline, ability to multi-task
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills

Applications Software Engineer – Retail Solutions

- Knowledge of source code management and configuration management
- Good working knowledge of object-oriented design, analysis, data structures/algorithms, programming methodologies and tools
- Proven track record in developing and supporting the most complex application programs using various programming languages, technologies and development tools
- Sound knowledge of VB6, Desktop and Webclass/ASP; ADO Connections/Commands/Recordsets; embedded ActiveX controls; HTML, DHTML, JavaScript/VBScript, CSS, SML (XSL,XSLT), VB.Net, Windows and Web Applications, SGV (XML Graphics); C/C++
- Java is required.

Retail Business Systems Analyst

- Application experience specific to retail business systems
- Experience with business object modeling tools and/or entity relationship modeling tools
- Ability to represent requirement and design information in graphical forms that augment textual representations, including using modeling tools and languages already established in the development organization
- Technical knowledge or experience with one or more of the following: web-based business applications, relational databases, and client server architecture
- Knowledge of source code management and configuration management

Technical Writer

- 2 to 6 years technical writing experience, with 2 years software documentation experience
- Ability to write documentation that is technically accurate and conforms to the company's writing style guidelines
- Experience using industry-standard tools such as FrameMaker, RoboHelp, Arbortext Epic, Dreamweaver, and content management systems
- Experience with markup languages, such as XML, SGML, or HTML
- Experience with graphics tools, such as Visio and Paint Shop Pro
- Experience creating deliverables for audiences ranging from end-user to highly technical
- Strong planning, research, and writing skills
- Ability to perform effectively in a fast-paced, growth-oriented, rapidly changing company. Excellent time management, problem-solving, analytical/critical thinking, organization skills and cross-functional communication experience

Test Center Manager

- Seven years experience in software development preferably with Java, C/C++ and .Net
- Two years of management experience on systems software organizations.
- Working knowledge of software development life-cycle.
- Knowledge of test methodology, test design, programming methodologies and tools
- Knowledge of source code management and configuration management
- Proven communication skills at all levels (peers, management, customers, and prospects).
- Proven organizational, leadership, and decision making skills.

Senior Software Engineer – Quality

- Proficient creating test designs and test plans and execution of test case/scripts
- Proficient in understanding integration & regression testing
- Proficient in automation test tools and test framework development
- Proficient in various hardware, operating systems, web/application servers and relational databases, ERP Applications and Microsoft office products
- Experience in structured and object oriented application development and SQL programming
- Experience in various programming languages, such as: C, C++, HTML, Cobol, Visual Basic, and Java
- Experience in white box API level testing and defect tracking
- Knowledge of automated testing tools (Rational Robot, Silktest, WinRunner, etc.)

Support Specialists

- Must be able to support and troubleshoot technologies relating to the following: platforms (UNIX/NT, Windows, and iSeries), networks (Microsoft, etc.), languages (COBOL, RPG, Java, Java Script, XML, and HTML), relational databases (Oracle, DB2, SQL Server, and DB2), Tivoli directory server, Microsoft ADAM, O/S scripting and web technologies.
- Must be able to support Lawson user interfaces utilized on all supported platforms.
- Must possess and demonstrate the ability to perform program analysis, testing and debugging and provide team members with assistance in resolving customer problems.
- Must be able to effectively communicate complex technical information with both internal and external customers.
- Must maintain expertise on current and new technologies. Advanced ERP (business and technical), WebSphere and/or database experience preferred.

UNIX Systems Administrator

- At least one (1) year of programming experience (ksh, bash)
- Level 1 certification of at least one vendor's Unix operating system and/or equivalent experience
- Solid understanding of general disk management, memory management, process management and general kernel/OS tuning
- Ability to back-up and recover a base server using native OS tools

Senior Applications Administrator

- At least five (5) years experience in applications administration
- Expertise in one or more of the major UNIX OS's in the industry
- At least five (5) years experience in tuning and configuring large enterprise applications in a live customer environment and benchmark environment

PC Technician

- Two (2) years experience as computer technician.
- Microsoft MCP certification.
- Hardware manufacturer certifications.
- Printer training and technical support experience.

Interested candidates may apply at
http://www.lawson.com/about/apply_online.shtml

Additionally other positions for Lawson
can also be found at that website.

Previous applicants need not re-apply.
We will respond to qualified candidates only.

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE

JOB SCOPE:

- Look for/Identify possible new properties to be leased/rented
- Conduct feasibility studies with regard to location's market/profit potential
- Coordinate/Negotiate, on behalf of the company, with the property owners the terms and conditions of the lease
- Process/Secure necessary approvals/documentation from various government agencies relative to the smooth flow of negotiation/s, construction, and business operations
- Assist Project Manager in existing property maintenance

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Graduate of Business Administration, Management or related course
- At least 5 years experience in Sales, particularly in Real Estate Property
- Experience in hotel and entertainment businesses are preferred
- Comprehensive knowledge of the various existing property and real estate policies/rules and regulations
- Excellent public relations, negotiation skills
- Excellent oral/written communications, and computer skills
- Can work under pressure and long hours to meet set deadline/s

Interested applicants may submit their
comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture to

PACIFIC PALM CORPORATION
6/F Ramon Magsaysay Center, 1680 Roxas Blvd.,
Malate, Manila or call tel. no. 522-8907 for more information,
or send via e-mail to tekdg@pacificpalm.com.ph

PRESTIGIOUS PRESCHOOL located in Quezon City

Looking for:

Preschool Teachers & Grade School Tutors

(for tutors: English & Chinese)

Preschool Applicants must be:

- Physically fit with no impending illness or history of illness
- A graduate of a course related to Child Education or Child Psychology

Mail Transcript and Resumé to: **THE DIRECTRESS**
MC P.O. BOX 1370
Makati City

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS INSTANTLY

VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB *Market*

UPLIFT Philippines, Inc.
(Non-stock, non-profit organization)
recruits

REGISTERED SOCIAL WORKERS

Send resume to
norman.torres@uplift.org.ph or mail to
172 A. Mabini St., Maypajo Caloocan
Tel. No. 285-48-04

• WANTED •

POSITION : **TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TRAINEE**

QUALIFICATIONS : Licensed Electrical Engineer for both field and office work
: Possess communication skills in both oral and written English
: Two years related work experience
: Computer literate
: Exposure to mobile equipment / transport industry is highly preferred.
: Willing to undergo training for professional/career advancement in the industry.
: Willing to travel to all ports nationwide ie. Visayas or Mindanao
: A permanent resident of Malabon, Navotas, Manila or Pasay Area.
: Honest, hardworking, healthy, trustworthy and excellent team-player
: Male 25 - 28 years old

Competitive compensation, negotiable

Qualified applicants may send their application letter with 2 x 2 picture, resumé, transcript of records, eligibility and work/character references to PO BOX # 706 Herrera Tower # 98 Herrera St. V.A. Rufino Salcedo Village, Makati City or through liftmstr@info.com.ph.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

A leading **ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING CONSULTANCY COMPANY** is in need of:

SR. DESIGN CIVIL ENGINEERS

- Minimum of 10 years experience in civil works design of Roads, Site Grading, Drainage, Water and Sewer Systems.
- Proficient in AutoCAD and Land Development Autodesk Software
- Familiarity with U.S. standards will be a plus factor

PROJECT SUPPORT STAFF

- **Civil Works Design Engineers**
  - Minimum of 5 years experience in land development or other horizontal projects.
  - Proficient in AutoCAD and Land Development Autodesk Software
  - Familiarity with U.S. standards will be a plus factor
- **AutoCAD Operators**
  - Minimum of 1 year

The Company offers very attractive and competitive salaries (between P25,000 to P50,000 depending on the qualifications), with good employee benefits over and above government standard benefits, such as medical & hospitalization cover for Principal and minor Dependents, accident insurance and performance bonuses. Opportunity to work abroad.

Send Application with Bio-Data or apply in person to:
HRM Officer
5/F Aurora Milestone Building
1045 Aurora Boulevard, Quezon City

WORK, LEARN, AND HAVE FUN!

A topnotch **management consulting firm** is looking for applicants for

ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATE

to handle sales and marketing, undertake customer relations, and assist in the training programs and consulting engagements.

Candidates should be:

- Graduate of Social Science, Communication Arts, or Business Management course; **prospective graduates by the end of the current semester may also apply**
- Proficient in written and communications in English
- Smart in terms of physical projection and practical approaches to various work situations

We offer competitive compensation and incentives, continuous learning opportunities, and a fun working environment.

Initially, no personal applications will be entertained.
Instead, please send your resumé to:
Unit 2209 Cityland 10 Condominium Tower 1
H.V. dela Costa Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City
E-mail: **coreconsult@pacific.net.ph**
Facsimile Machine Number: **894-0733**

OSG OSG Ship Management Manila Inc.

WANTED

(FOR IMMEDIATE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT)

RECRUITMENT OFFICER

- Male (not more than 50 years old)
- Licensed DECK OFFICER (at least Chief Officer)
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Computer literate
- Adequately familiar with STCW '95 requirements, ISM, ISO, and ISPS Code
- With minimum experience as a recruitment officer in a manning agency.

Interested applicants can bring their pertinent documents and apply personally from Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at:

OSG SHIP MANAGEMENT MANILA, INC.
Suite 1208-A Ermita Center Bldg.
1350 Roxas Blvd., Manila
Tels. No. 536-3496 / 536-7080 / 536-7081 /
523-5560 / 526-4995
POEA LIC. 001-SB04209-UL

"previous applicants need not apply"

IBM

Do you sfeek Engleesh?

Maybe you do, or maybe you need to work on your English a bit more in order to get a call center job. If the way you speak English is the only thing that's preventing you from working in a call center, we can help you. We are willing to provide you with **free call center language training** for one whole month. While you're learning, we're also going to give you a **training allowance**. At the end of your training, if you pass the course with flying colors, you can look forward to working with us!

We want you to succeed and we're willing to give you the skills that you need in order to make it as one of our Customer Care Specialists.

So what are you waiting for? Unlock your hidden potential!

Now hiring for our Telecommunications and Travel accounts!
IBM Daksh is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Undergraduates are encouraged to explore opportunities at IBM Daksh.

IBM DAKSH BUSINESS PROCESS SERVICES PHILIPPINES INC.

Customer Care Specialists for Fortune 500 Companies

- Telecommunications (Voice Support)
- Travel (Voice Support)
- Consumer Electronics (Voice Support)
- Digital Imaging Company (Voice Support)
  - HR back office support (Speaks German or French)
- Consumer Manufacturing Co. (Voice/Email Support)
  - HR back office support (Speaks Thai)
  - HR back office support (Speaks Mandarin and Cantonese)
- Internet Shopping Company (Email/Chat Support)

Qualifications:

- Must have completed 3 years of college education or a 2 year Vocational course
- Must possess excellent oral and written English communication skills
- Call center experience is an advantage
- Proficient in the use of computers and various applications
- Willing to work in a fast-paced, dynamic and schedule-shifting environment

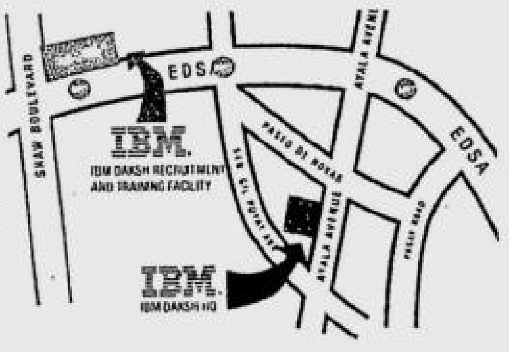
Support & Leadership Posts

- Operations Managers
- Team Leaders
- Workforce Managers
- Workforce Specialists
- Deputy General Manager - Quality
- QA Manager – Six Sigma
- Deputy QA Managers
- Strategic QA Specialists
- Employee Relations Associates
- Assistant Manager - HR
- Manager - Events
- Manager - Communications
- Deputy Manager - EOC Branding
- Financial Analyst
- Financial Planning Manager
- Accounts Payable & Tax Accountant
- Sr. Recruitment Associates - Sourcing
- Sr. Recruitment Associates - Support and Leadership
- Voice and Accent Trainers

Relevant call center experience is a must for support and leadership posts.

IBM DAKSH HEADQUARTERS
30/F PBCom Tower,
Ayala Avenue Makati

IBM DAKSH RECRUITMENT CENTER
3/F Edsa Central Pavilion
Edsa cor Shaw Boulevard
Mandaluyong City



Call our Recruitment Hotline: **840-6020**
or email your resume to: **applications@daksh.com.ph**

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

CENTRAL PLANNING OFFICER / MANAGER

- Male/Female, 30-45 years old.
- Preferably graduate of Industrial Engineering or related course.
- Must have previous experience handling Supply Chain Management in a managerial level.
- Must have strong background on central/production planning and project management gained from a manufacturing environment.
- With excellent communication and leadership skills.

Salary is negotiable depending on qualifications.

Pls. email your resumé, photo, and references to: **ebmuscat@motolite.com**

****PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT APPLY.**

Ayala
Property
Management
Corporation

invites
young, dynamic and innovative professionals
for the following positions:

BUILDING ADMINISTRATOR – RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES (Code: RBA)

- Graduate of any 4 or 5 year course
- With at least 2 years related experience in property management or hospitality industry
- With strong background in customer service
- With excellent communication skills

BUILDING ADMINISTRATOR – OFFICE BUILDINGS (Code: OFBA)

- Licensed Mechanical or Electrical Engineer
- With at least 2 years related experience in property/facilities management
- With excellent communication skills

BUILDING ENGINEER (Code: BE)

- Licensed Mechanical or Electrical Engineer
- With at least 2 years related experience in property/facilities management
- With excellent communication skills

Interested applicants can mail their comprehensive resumé together with a copy of the Transcript of Records, 2x2 picture and contact numbers to:

Position Code:
5/F Glorietta 4
Ayala Center, Makati City

Or send it in plain text or MS Word 97 version to Recruitment@ayalaproperty.com.ph

---

TALK2ME **Talk2Me Incorporated**

Solutions 77, 6th floor,
Filipino Building, 135 Dela Rosa St.,
Legaspi Village, Makati City, Philippines, 1229
Tel. No. (02) 8131540

We are a globally outsourced Contact Center that focuses both on inbound & outbound campaigns. We are looking for college graduates of any bachelor's degree to fill up:

(1) Team Leader

- Full time and can start immediately
- At least (6) months of team management experience
- Can interact with clients
- Good coach and motivator
- Very good communication skills

20 Call Center Agents

- Full time and can start immediately
- At least three (3) months of call center experience in outbound or inbound international calls
- Very good communication skills
- New graduates from reputable schools, professionals, retirees are all welcome
- Excellent customer service and phone sales skills

Interested applicants may bring a resumé for an immediate interview. Look for Dave and Marie from Monday –Friday, 9am-6pm.

Don Bosco Technical Institute, a private Catholic educational institution is in need of individual to fill in the position as:

SYSTEMS ANALYST / PROGRAMMER

- Female, 24 to 30 years old
- Graduate of Computer Science / Engineering, Information Technology, Computer applications or related course
- Proficient in Visual Basic programming
- Knowledgeable in either MS Access or MySQL database management systems skills
- Preferably knows C++, Java or PHP
- Has excellent oral and written communication skills
- Has excellent interpersonal skills
- At least one year relevant work experience

Interested applicants should personally bring their comprehensive resumé, photocopies of transcript of records and diploma to the:

Human Resource Office
Don Bosco Technical Institute
Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City
(In front of Cityland Pasong Tamo)

FINANCE MANAGER

- Certified Public Accountant
- With 3 to 5 years experience in cost management systems
- Knowledge of any accounting software, e.g., Quickbooks
- Proficiency in the use of Excel features and commands
- Highly motivated
- Critical thinking, high analytical skills required
- Can effectively work under pressure
- Willing to start immediately

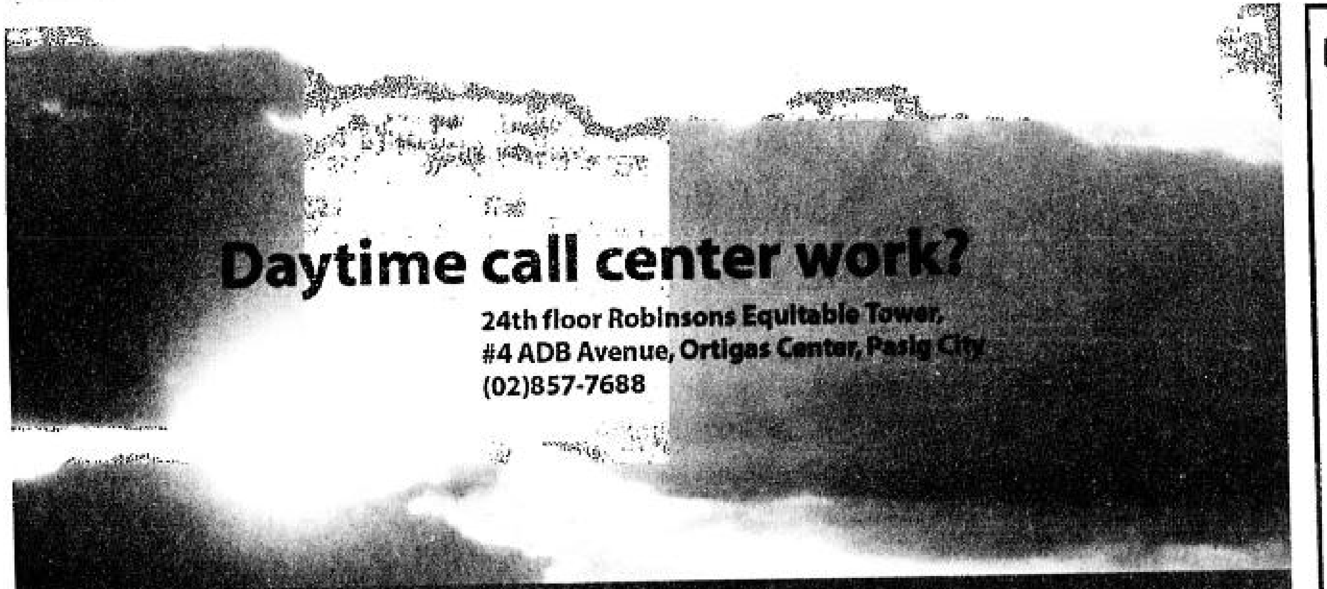
Submit resumé pasted onto the body of email to **hr@totaltranscription.com**
Emails with attachments will not be opened.

AyalaLand PREMIER

Your job description will include making presentations in conference rooms like this:

If you're among the Property Specialists Ayala Land Sales Inc. (ALSI) looks to hire, you'll also get the opportunity to represent the country's most prestigious property developments and work with the industry's most dynamic and interesting movers and shakers. You'll get to expand your network, participate in sales-generating activities and events, advise prospects on where and when to invest, you get continuous training and development. You get to help people find not just living space, but their dream home. Most importantly, you won't be just holding down a job, you'll be building a career. If you're anywhere from 21-35 years of age, a graduate from a reputable university and possess pronounced entrepreneurial skill and a strong background in sales or the service industry, bring your resume with colored picture and be at the **Training Room, 25th floor Tower One, Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue, Makati City on March 14, 2006 from 9am to 3pm**, in your business attire. We have other conference rooms you might be interested to see. For inquiries, call 759-4873.

AYALA LAND SALES, INC.



Daytime call center work?

24th floor Robinsons Equitable Tower,
#4 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
(02)857-7688

Yes, it is possible!

Convergys has daytime openings with one of our leading technology clients, Cisco Systems. Team members are responsible for contacting partners throughout Asia via phone and email to renew Cisco service contracts.

No technical experience is needed! If you'd like to work between Monday – Friday, 6:00am – 6:00pm and be part of a great team, we want to talk with YOU!

Due to the location of our customers, applicants with Cantonese/ Mandarin or Korean language skills are preferred

AVAILABLE POSITIONS
- Sales Representatives
- Sales Support Representatives
- Team Support Representatives

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES
- Contact partners to renew service contracts
- Record sales and customer data
- Achieve established quotas and other metrics
- Misc reporting and projects as assigned

ALL APPLICANTS SHOULD POSSESS
- Excellent English skills
- PC, Internet, and Microsoft Excel experience
- College graduate in a business-related field
- Prior call center experience (preferred)
- A desire to have FUN!

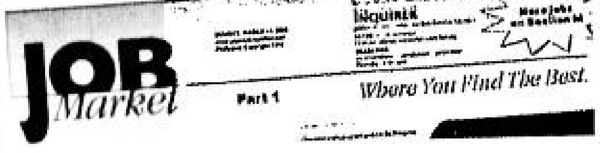
Email your resumes to alex.raymundo@convergys.com

CISCO SYSTEMS

CONVERGYS
Outthinking Outdoing

More employment opportunities in today's JOB MARKET.

Every Sunday with the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



HS MOLDING TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

A Japanese owned company engaged in manufacturing of various plastic injected parts for car stereo, copier and other several electronic gadgets.

IS URGENTLY IN NEED OF:

ONE (1) PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT HEAD
Preferably Male
Graduate of any Engineering course
With 5 years managerial experience in manufacturing industry (plastic injection)
Highly motivated and result-oriented

ONE (1) QUALITY ASSURANCE SECTION HEAD
Male / Female
Graduate of any Engineering course
Knowledgeable in all inspection tools and gauges
Aptitude in engineering and quality concepts
At least 1 yr experince in an industrial setting

ONE (1) QUALITY ASSURANCE ENGINEER
Male / Female
Graduate of any Engineering course
At least 1 yr work experience in industrial setting
Computer literate
With good communication skills

ONE (1) IT PROGRAMMER
Male 21 y/o above
Computer Science Graduate or any related course
Knowledgeable in VBasic 6, Crystal Report 8.5: mySQL Database; Web design, Flash, HTML
Knowledgeable in PC troubleshooting; LAN

FOUR (4) PAINTING OPERATOR
Male, 21 years old and above
At least high school graduate
With 1 year experience in painting process
Must have painting skills and basic computer knowledge

Interested applicants may apply personally at:

HS Molding Technologies, Inc.
East Ave., Cor. CEZIA Road, PEZA,
Rosario, Cavite
Telephone #437-0414 to 16
Or email at: hradmin@hsm.com.ph
Log-on to: www.hsm.com.ph

Wanted for Immediate Hiring

Highly Talented Designers wanted from International Greetings card company, Excellent Income, Regular or Freelance

- **Computer Graphic Artists**
- **handmade / CollegeDesigners**
- **Cartoonists**
- **Fashion Designers**
- **Fine Arts Designers**
- **Well experienced Airbrush-Artists**
- **Package Designers**
- **Talented Graveur for Blind**
- **Embossing tools**

Please contact : steger@cactus.ag
7269867 Antonio Paras

M. DE LEON INC.

Is in need of

SECRETARY

20-30 years old, pleasing personality, knowledge in stenography, computer literate & with good English grammar

Apply at M. DELEON, INC.
6 Saint Peter St., Cubao, Q.C.
726-0644 / 726-9811
or mail resumé at:
mdeleon@skylnet.net

LIKAS YAMAN SERVICE CORPORATION
Subsidiary Company of
San Miguel Corporation – Shipping & Lighterage

ASSISTANT PORT WAREHOUSE MANAGER
(Mariveles, Bataan)
- College Graduate of any related course
- With background skill in Logistic
- Computer Literate
- At least with 1 year experience

Interested applicants may send their requirements to:

JOYLYN CUSTODIO
B-Meg Mariveles
10th Ave., cor. Mindanao Ave.,
BEZ Mariveles, Bataan 2106

ACCOUNTING STAFF (Manila & Cebu)
- Graduate of B.S. Accountancy
- Male/Female, Single
- CPA or Non-CPA
- Computer Literate

FORKLIFT OPERATOR (Manila, Cavite, Bataan)
- Highschool/Vocational Graduate
- With Driver's License
- Skilled in handling forklift

Interested applicants may hand carry their requirements to:

LIKAS YAMAN SERVICE CORPORATION
3F Rm. 302 2276 Narra Bldg.,
Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City

Or E-mail at: lesliehergado@yahoo.com
Tel No. (02) 812-2583

Requirements:
1. Resume w/ 2x2 colored picture
2. Transcript of Records
3. Diploma
4. Certificate of Employment (if any)
5. NBI Clearance
6. 2 pcs. 1x1 colored picture
7. Driver's License

Kindly indicate the desired position in your resumé

URGENTLY NEEDED

COMPANY LAWYER

A LEADING COMPANY, URGENTLY NEEDS AN IN-HOUSE LAWYER, PREFERABLY, A GRADUATE OF UP, ATENEO & SAN BEDA AND WITH AT LEAST ONE (1) YEAR EXPERIENCE IN LITIGATION.. COMPENSATION IS ATTRACTIVE AND COMPETITIVE.

INTERESTED PARTIES MAY FAX THEIR RESUMÉ AT 721-2629. OR CALL ROBERTO ALMORO, TEL. # 721-3190

Hydraulics Consultant

Mandarin Chinese Speaker – International Research Group requires a part time Mandarin Chinese speaking consultant with specially knowledge of international Hydraulics for Internet market research on the China market. Must be experienced in hydraulics, quality assurance, be fluent in written & verbal English & Chinese. Send CV including history, expected hourly & daily remuneration requirements to:
ken_patterson@yahoo.com.au
All matters treated in the strictest of confidence

JOB *Market*

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2006
Philippine Copyright 1995

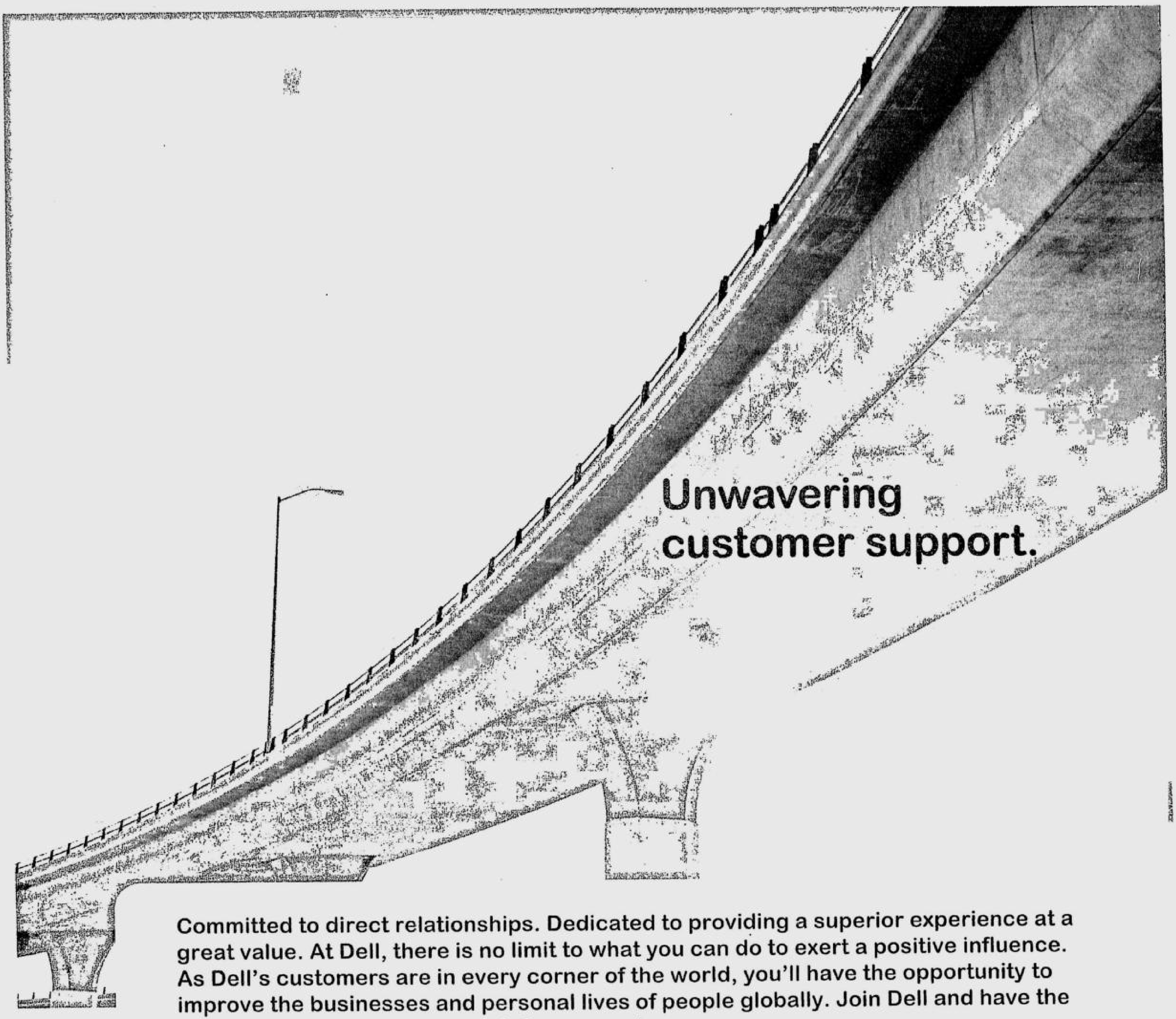
For jobseekers, log on to:
www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB *Market* is exclusively for job advertisements.
This special section comes FREE with your copy of the INQUIRER published every Sunday and distributed in key cities

RATES (E-VAT exclusive)
P230 per column centimeter every Sunday
DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Thursday 12:00 noon

Text us your feedback: Inquirer jm name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Where You Find The Best.



Committed to direct relationships. Dedicated to providing a superior experience at a great value. At Dell, there is no limit to what you can do to exert a positive influence. As Dell's customers are in every corner of the world, you'll have the opportunity to improve the businesses and personal lives of people globally. Join Dell and have the satisfaction of doing a great job for our customers.

Careers at Dell. Consider the possibilities.

NOW HIRING

TECHNICAL SUPPORT AGENTS
SERVICE LEADS (Team Leaders)
RESOLUTION SPECIALISTS (L2/L3 Technical Support Agents)
TECHNICAL TRAINERS
WORKFORCE & QUALITY ANALYSTS

Dell, America's Most Admired Company, is extending its worldwide network of call centers to Metro Manila. We are hiring more than 200 Technical Support Agents to support our global customers who use Dell products for home entertainment and education.

To apply, visit www.dell.com/manila
or call us at 728-DELL for details
or visit us at our Recruiting Center: 27/F Tower 2, RCBC Plaza, 6819 Ayala Ave. Corner Senator Gil Puyat Ave. Makati City

DELL™
Consider the possibilities

APAC® Manila

Your success begins with us.

Open House Recruitment
March 13 - 17

Great job openings:

- Customer Service Representatives
- Workforce Analyst*

Requirements:

- Finished at least sophomore year in college or its equivalent
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Proficient in MS Office
- Good typing skills
- Customer service experience an advantage

*Requires a Bachelor's Degree and relevant work experience

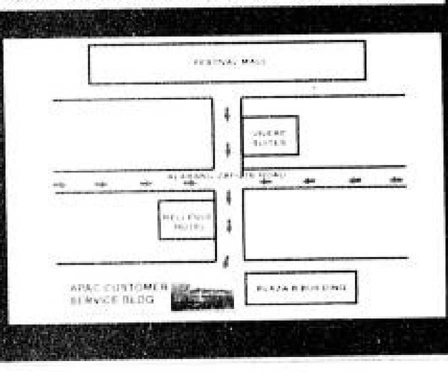
Attractive compensation package and excellent benefits await the candidates including:

- Meal and transportation allowances
- Health and Life Insurance
- Incentives and bonuses where applicable
- Aggressive internal promotion
- The latest tools, cutting edge protocols and the newest development environment
- P 5,000 hiring bonus after training

Come and see us at:

Plaza C, Northgate Cyberzone,
Filinvest Corporate City
Alabang, Muntinlupa
Or call us at: 7576500 or 7576566
Mondays thru Fridays, from 9 am to 10 pm

Apply on line: recruitment@apacmail.com
Or visit our website: www.apaccustomerservices.com



Environments Global

Environments Global is the holding firm of several service brands covering the real estate and construction industry. The group provides a broad range of product services including design consultancy, project management, design process re-sourcing and other solutions for the built environment. Environments Global is currently growing its coverage outside of Asia to include North America, Europe and the Middle East.

PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT OFFICER
Job Code: PMO

He shall be responsible for managing schedule and manpower requirements in production of contract documents. He shall also undertake quality control in sheet composition, content and consistency in CADD standards.

- College degree in Architecture
- Professional registration preferred
- At least 5 years experience in high-rise design and construction documentation required
- Proficiency in AutoCAD 2004/2005 required
- Excellent communication skills required

CADD DESIGNER
Job Code: CAD

He shall be primarily responsible for generating working drawings

- College degree in Architecture
- At least 3 years experience in construction documentation for architecture (preferably high-rise) or interior design projects preferred
- Proficiency in AutoCAD 2004/2005 required
- Proficiency in modeling and graphic/rendering software an advantage

PROJECT OFFICER / ENGINEER / ARCHITECT
Job Code: PRE

He shall be responsible for construction supervision/inspection. He shall undertake project management and shall ensure design quality control during project implementation.

- College degree in Architecture or Civil Engineering
- Professional registration preferred
- With 3 years experience
- Exposure in construction & fit-out preferred
- International exposure an advantage
- Computer literacy and proficiency preferred

ASSISTANT PRODUCTION MANAGER
Job Code: APM

He/she shall oversee production of contract documents, detailing and specifications writing for various project types. He shall also be responsible for coordination with clients and consultants (MEPS) to ensure architectural design/interior design intent is maintained. He shall be in-charge of final review, quality control and timely submission of project deliverables.

- College degree in Architecture
- Professional registration required
- At least 10 years experience in high-rise design and construction documentation required
- Strong leadership qualities, managerial and organizational skills required
- Has working knowledge of AutoCAD 2004/2005
- International exposure an advantage
- Must be willing to travel abroad
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills required

PROJECT COORDINATOR
Job Code: PRC

He/she shall be responsible for over-all coordination with Client, Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing/Fire Protection and Structural (MEPS) engineering consultants from conceptual to construction documentation stages. He shall be in-charge of design review, quality control and timely submission of project deliverables.

- College degree in Architecture
- Professional registration required
- At least 5 years experience in high-rise design and construction documentation required
- Proficiency in Autocad 2004/2005 required
- Willing to travel
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills required

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
Job Code: BDM

He/she will be tasked with identifying client project requirements, preparation of proposals, client representation, company presentations, and other activities related to business development and client maintenance.

- College graduate
- At least 7 -years experience in high-level sales and marketing
- Strong knowledge of the industry, preferably with existing contact network
- Effective presentation and communication skills
- Aggressive attitude with pleasing personality

COST ACCOUNTING OFFICER
Job Code: CAO

He/she will be tasked to maintain, monitor and analyze, the standard, actual, and budgeted costs of the firms' various projects with varying scope and complexity. He/she will also play a key role in the budgeting process, coordinating with various strategic business and operating units in coming up with flexible budgets.

- College graduate of Accountancy
- Must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- At least six (6) years experience in Cost Accounting preferably in a project-based service firm
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Highly analytical and process-oriented

IT SUPPORT + DEVELOPER
Job Code: ITS

He/she shall be tasked with providing support for the company's Windows-based infrastructure, as well as the development, maintenance and support of internal information systems, including various database and intranet-based applications.

- Graduate of BS Computer Science or related courses from a reputable institution
- 3 years work experience in a fast-paced environment
- Strong background in one or more of the following: PHP, HTML, MS SQL Server, MySQL, and MS Access

27F Philamlife Tower, 8767 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City 1226 Voice +63.2.8850808 Fax +63.2.7280808 E-mail jobs@envglobal.net
All positions are for employment in the Philippines. Previous applicants need not apply. Deadline for submission is on March 31, 2006.

To e is to believe

To believe that I deserve to be part of a world-class team
To believe that my hard work is rightfully rewarded
To believe that I am cared for by eTelecare, the country's Employer of the Year

EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

THE PHILIPPINES' OUTSTANDING EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR*

*awarded by the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP)

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Inbound/Outbound Sales Representatives

Technical Support Representatives
Customer Service Associates

- Administrative Assistant
- Corporate Asset Management Specialist
- Front Desk Associates
- OD Officer (OD Consulting)
- OD Officer (Career Development)
- Payroll Assistants
- Recruiting Specialists
- Applications Developer
- IT Help Desk Associates
- IT Project Leaders
- Senior Applications Developer
- Telecommunications Specialist 3
- Dialer Administrator
- Site Admin Officer
- Quality Control Associates
- Productivity Assurance Coordinators

etelecare GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

The world's most-awarded call center company
Call our hotlines: Manila 580-6530 • Cebu (032) 411-9030
manila.recruiting@etelecare.com • cebu.recruiting@etelecare.com

LIBIS
20/F CyberOne Bldg.,
Eastwood City, Libis,
Quezon City

MAKATI
14/F PBCom Tower,
6795 Ayala Ave.,
Makati City

CEBU
6/F PIPC Bldg.,
Asiatown IT Park,
Lahug, Cebu City

We have
such a great culture
that work just seems like
play.

We offer a fun and professional working environment—among other things.

Attractive compensation • Premium health care • Stock options
Job security and career advancement • Continuous training and skills development • Travel benefits extended to the family

WE ARE LOOKING FOR eReps™

(Contact Center Representatives)

Customer Service • Technical Support
Sales • Travel • Financial Services

We offer a premium for contact center experience!

- Excellent English communication skills
- Strong customer service/sales skills
- Problem solving and analytical skills
- Computer and internet proficiency
- Willing to work shifts

Visit our office and be interviewed right away!

PeopleSupport Center
Ayala corner Sen Gil Puyat Avenues, Makati City
Monday to Saturday 8:00 am to 8:00 pm
Call 755-2600 or apply online.

Part-time positions for Sales eReps available.
Also hiring full-time Transcriptionists.

We are actively hiring Team Supervisors!

CORPORATE POSITIONS NEEDED

TRAINING
Training Manager, Leadership Development
University Linkages Program Liaison
Communication Trainers (Manila and Cebu)
Senior Professional Development Trainer
Transcription Trainer
Real Estate Trainer
Financial Services Trainer
Technical Trainer (Manila and Cebu)
Course Developer

HUMAN RESOURCES
Recruitment Manager
Employee Relations Officer
Recruitment Officers (Cebu and Davao)
Recruitment Associate

FINANCE
Senior Accounting Officer
Billing Specialist
Data Analyst
Accounting Associates
Accounting Assistant

SERVICE DELIVERY
Program Director
Director, Quality Management
Forcedesk Manager
Workforce Manager
Operations Manager
Team Managers
Team Supervisors
Process and Reporting Analyst

SALES
Business Development Manager

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Telecommunications Manager
Consulting Manager
Telecommunications Engineer
CMS Administrator
Database Administrator
Helpdesk Analyst
Desktop Analyst (Manila & Cebu)

LEGAL
Senior Attorney
Legal Assistant

For corporate applicants only, email resumé to
corporatejobs@peoplesupport.com
and indicate position on the subject line.
For further details, visit our website.

www.peoplesupport.com

PEOPLE**SUPPORT**®

PRISM
PRIVATE SECTOR MOBILIZATION FOR FAMILY PLANNING

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The Private Sector Mobilization in Family Planning (PRISM) Project
Scope of Work

Grants Officer

Background:
The PRISM Project supports USAID/Philippines' Strategic Objective 3, *Desired family size and improved health sustainably achieved*, focusing on three components: 1) increased **workplace** support for FP services and referrals, 2) establishment of viable, mass **market** brands of hormonal contraceptives, and 3) increased business value of FP among **private practice** providers.

Because of the anticipated volume of contracts to be managed under the project, Chemonics is engaging the services of a Grants Officer. The Grants Officer is expected to participate in specific steps in the grant-making process, namely: pre-solicitation, solicitation, review and selection, pre-award, award and post-award stages.

Pre-Solicitation
1. Assist in updating and maintaining the list of associations, business organizations and other non-government organizations which are potential recipient/s of grant solicitations;
2. Assist in organizing and in the actual conduct of pre-award orientations, proposal write shops, etc.; assistance includes documenting the proceedings and/or writing the minutes; and,
3. Assist in the preparation of requests for applications (RFAs) and/or Annual Program Statements (APS)

Solicitation
1. Assist in the issuance of RFAs e.g. preparation of newspaper ads, preparation of letters to partners announcing the solicitation, etc.;
2. Assist in following up submission of applications; and,
3. Maintain files of all solicitations and applications received (PRISM grant files)

Review and Selection
1. Check for the completeness of submitted proposals and applications
2. Assist in organizing meetings of Selection Committee which will evaluate applications for grant awards; and,
3. Prepares minutes of selection committee meetings

Award Stage
1. Prepare notification letters for grant recipients
2. Assist in the preparation of the grant agreements

Implementation Stage
1. Maintain all grant files
2. Assist in monitoring compliance of grantees to their contract terms and in following up submission of required periodic reports from grantees
3. Review the completeness and accuracy of documents submitted to facilitate payment orders or requests
4. Update and maintain grants database

Closeout
1. Follow up preparation and submission of terminal reports or deliverables
2. Prepare grant completion certificates

Reporting:
The Grants Officer will report directly to Senior Grants Manager

Qualifications:
- College graduate
- Minimum of 3 years experience in administering grants or subcontracts under USAID funding
- Knowledge of USAID procurement procedures
- Very skilled in various computer applications
- Good command in written and spoken English
- Has a keen eye for details

Interested applicants should e-mail their application letter and CV at jobs@prism.org.ph on or before 24th of March 2006. Please indicate the **subject** of your email as **"Position Code: GO"**.

PRISM
PRIVATE SECTOR MOBILIZATION FOR FAMILY PLANNING

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The Private Sector Mobilization for Family Planning (PRISM) Project
Scope of Work

Senior Grants Manager

Background:

The PRISM Project supports USAID/Philippines' Strategic Objective 3, *Desired family size and improved health sustainably achieved*, focusing on three components: 1) increased **workplace** support for FP services and referrals, 2) establishment of viable, mass **market** brands of hormonal contraceptives, and 3) increased business value of FP among **private practice** providers.

The Senior Grants Manager will be responsible for taking the lead role in creating and initiating the grants program and coordinating with PRISM's Senior Technical Directors, Regional Directors, Senior Field Operations Director, and Chief of Party or his designee on FP grant-related work.

The following are the principal duties and responsibilities but not limited to:

- Create and oversee overall policies, practices and procedures relating to grants management,
- Create specific procedures relating to grant solicitation and selection, grant awards, grant monitoring and evaluation and grant close-outs.
- Ensure the proper preparation and execution of grant documents and grant disbursements in line with USAID procedures and practices.
- Oversee the first few grant cycles to ensure adherence to established USAID and project policies.
- Ensure proper planning and preparation of synopses, agendas, minutes, memos
- Build results and results frameworks into the grants program.
- Analyze, assess, and assist with budgetary and financial aspects of grant proposals, recipient financial management capacities and needs and disbursement of funds/grants.
- Submit proposals to USAID for approval before awarding grants.
- Ensure that the grant recipient have good appreciation of the terms and conditions of the fund/grant as well as the clauses which provide guidelines on amendments, suspension, termination, disputes and other standard provisions in the administration and management of the grants.
- Ensure effective liaison between project staff and grant recipients, ensure that recipients are provided with suitable technical advice and assistance
- Prepare monitoring and evaluation report on a quarterly basis of the outstanding grants to include the problems encountered in the implementation of the grants and the corresponding resolutions.
- Work closely with the Senior Technical Directors, Regional Operations Directors Senior Field Operations Director and Senior Finance and Administration Manager, USAID, and other team members on all matters relating to grants.
- All other duties that will be assigned by the Project Support Unit Director and the Chief of Party or their designee.

Reporting:

The Sr. Grants Manager will report directly to the Director of Project Support and Administrative Unit or her designee, who will be responsible for monitoring the director's overall performance.

Job Qualifications
- This position will require 10+ years of experience and good understanding of donor organizations' procedural requirements in grant administration and management, preferably USAID funded programs.
- Good project management and administrative skills, preferably with respect to managing grant programs.
- Good analytical ability and knowledge of health organizations in the Philippines.
- An up-to-date understanding and knowledge of political and social conditions in the Philippines.
- Knowledge of approaches suitable for assessing recipient organizations' grant-worthiness, as well as their financial, administrative and program planning capacities.
- Patience, good humor, and an ability to get along well with people in a team, sometimes in demanding and/or busy circumstances.
- Field experience with NGOs, preferably health organizations, preferably in the Philippines, and experience monitoring and evaluating field projects.

Interested applicants should e-mail their application letter and CV at jobs@prism.org.ph on or before 24th of March 2006. Please indicate the **subject** of your email as **"Position Code: SGM"**.

$$ URGENTLY NEEDED $$

Land Surveyor, Survey Instrumentacion, Civil Engineer (vertical), Electrical Engineer, Electro-Mechanical Engineer/Plumbing Engineer (HVAC), Architect (with Autocad knowledge), Auto CAD (3D), Computer Network Technicians, Security Systems Engineer, Telecom Technician, Telecommunication Engineer, Security Systems Technicians, Telecom Engineer, Telecom Technician, GSM Power Engineer, Auto Builder/Painter, Argon Welder, Auto Electrician, Marble Cutter, Heavy Equipment Operator (Loader, Backhoe, Bulldozer), Car Painter/Body Builder, Domestic Helper (Catholic/Muslim), Baby Sitter, Dressmaker, Beautician, Gym Instructor.

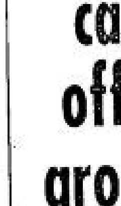
GVRC PLACEMENT SERVICES
#1202-B INT. GEN. LUNA ST.,
ERMITA, MANILA
TEXT OR CALL 0920-6262141/
498-1172 LOOK FOR PEARL

WANTED

HUMAN RESOURCES
- at least 25 yrs. old
- 5 yrs. experience, preferably BS Psychology grad

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER
- at least 1 yr. exp. in bag manufacture
- 22-30 yrs. old
- willing to work long hours

834 Felipe Pike St.,
Bagong Ilog, Pasig City
Tel. 671-1649



Get your career off the ground.

JOB market
www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB *Market*
SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2006
Philippine Copyright 1995
For jobseekers, log on to:
www.jobmarketonline.com
JOB *Market* is exclusively for job advertisements.
This special section comes FREE with your copy of the INQUIRER published every Sunday and distributed in key cities
RATES (E-VAT exclusive)
P230 per column centimeter every Sunday
DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Thursday 12:00 noon
Text us your feedback: Inquirer jm name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
Where You Find The Best. ★★★ 1

TeleTech®

Powered by **HirePoint**

YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE.

Customer Service Representatives

Technical Accounts: (for Cainta and Novaliches)
- Must have finished at least 2nd year college with minimum 1 year call center experience
- Ability to navigate the computer system
- Must be willing to work on varied hours, weekends and holidays
- Must have strong comprehension and listening skills

Inbound Sales Accounts: (for Cainta and Novaliches)
- Preferably a graduate of a 4-yr or 5-yr course
- Must have a minimum of 1 year customer service/sales experience, preferably in a call center setting

Health Care Account: (for Cainta)
- Preferably a graduate of a 4-yr or 5-yr course
- Preferably with 6-month healthcare background
- Must have strong comprehension and listening skills

Inbound CSRs: (Dumaguete)
- Preferably graduate of any 4-year course
- With excellent communication skills in English

Airlines Reservations and Collections Accounts: (for Roxas)
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- With excellent communication skills in English

For Airline reservations:
- At least 6 months experience in the airline industry or sales experience preferred
- Familiar with Galileo or Apollo reservation software

For Collections:
- With collections experience

for CSR positions only
call us at: 552.9799

Apply online at:
www.HirePoint.com

Business Support Positions

ROXAS
HR Generalist
Accounts Payable Analyst
(Spanish/Portuguese Speaking)
Workforce Planning Specialist
Workforce Planning Supervisor
Business Communication Specialist
Quality Assurance Specialist
Human Capital Manager
Senior Team Leader
Team Leader
Training and Quality Supervisor
Payroll Specialist
Recruiting Analyst
Senior Software Developer
Project Launch Manager
InSITE Developer
Graphic User Interface Developer
Testing Engineer
Front End Designer
HR Clerk
Payroll Specialist
Regional Technology Manager

CAINTA
Team Leaders (Technical/Healthcare
/Inbound Sales)
Business Communications Specialist
Leadership Effectiveness Manager
Quality Assurance
Quality System Administrator
Quality Assurance Specialist
Trainers and Evaluators -Accent and
Conversational English
Workforce Planning Specialist
Real-Time Monitoring Specialist

DUMAGUETE
Trainer - Accent and
Conversational English
Workforce Planning Specialist
Site Tech Lead

NOVALICHES
Operations Manager (Technical Support)
Business Process Manager
Quality Assurance Manager (Technical Support)
Workforce Planning Supervisor
Workforce Planning Specialist
Real-Time Monitoring Specialist
Team Leader (Technical Support and Inbound Sales)
Trainers and Evaluator - Accent and
Conversational English (Shared)
Facilities Lead (Shared)
Administrative Assistant
Global Service Desk Associate

FORT
Workforce Planning Assistant Managers
Operations Manager

For Business Support, Please email resumes at:
(Please indicate position)

hrjobs_ph@teletech.com

Applicants may come to our TeleTech Offices at:

> Building F, SM Corporate Offices
1000 Bay Boulevard, Bay City, Pasay City

> Levels 1 and 2, Robinsons Place Cainta,
Ortigas ext., Cainta, Rizal

> Levels 1 and 2, Robinsons Place Novaliches,
Maligaya cor Quirino Highway,Quezon City

>UMEE Bldg., Sta. Catalina Street,
Dumaguete City

TeleTech is the leading provider of Customer Management and Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) solutions worldwide. Headquartered in Denver, Colorado with a global network in 17 countries, TeleTech supports 40,000 employees in 78 Customer Management Centers located in North America, Europe, Asia-Pacific and Latin America. TeleTech has supported the world's largest companies in the Philippines since 2001. Today, we have five large contact centers with more than 4,500 employees!

TeleTech®

www.teletech.com

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE WITH THE COUNTRY'S NUMBER 1 BANK?

ARE YOU *Driven?*
Customer-focused?
Results-oriented?
A team player?

Do you have the smarts and the skills to sail through the daily challenges of the banking industry?
Do you want a career that gives you the opportunity to grow and learn while having fun along the way?
Do you have what it takes to be the best that you can be?

If you answer YES to all, then you are the one we want!

We are looking for dynamic men and women to join the country's BIGGEST and BEST universal bank!

If this is where you want to be, come and see us on METROBANK'S CAREER DAY and tell us why you are the right one for any of the following positions.

Branch Operations Officers
Account Officers
Customer Service Representatives
Accounting Assistants
Audit Examiners

We are also looking for Product Development Officers, Project Management Analysts, Operations Research Specialists, Traders, Organization Design Specialists, Graphic Artists, and PR Coordinators.

Career Day is on ***March 18, 2006*** *(Saturday) from 8:00 am -3:00 pm at the* ***2nd Floor, Fortune Building, 160 Legaspi Street, Legaspi Village, Makati.***

Please come in proper business attire and bring your resume, transcript of records, and latest 2"x2" colored picture.

You're in good hands with
METROBANK

Our Company is one of the **Global Engineering Center** in Asia offering services in Engineering, Design and Construction Management to a diverse range of facilities from industrial to electronics to pharmaceutical.

We offer **job opportunities** that will provide long-term employment and professional growth. We want you to join our highly motivated team of experienced engineers armed with innovative technology.

PROCESS ENGINEERS

•Skilled in heat and material balance, simulation, control system, preparation of Process Flow Diagrams, Piping & Instrument Diagram, Material Selection Diagram, hydraulic calculation, design of equipment, preparation of specification for equipment and instrumentations, safety design, HAZOP, and other process related activities. Experienced in the design of any of petroleum refineries, gas plants, chemical plants, and power plants.

COMBUSTION ENGINEERS

•Experience in Fire Heater, Boiler, Deaerator, Flare Stack and Incinerator Engineering. Able to prepare Specification, Datasheet, Requisition, Vendor Technical Evaluation, Design Drawing, Strength Calculation and BM/BQ Reviews ITB , PJ specs, Vendor proposals and documents related to Process, Mechanical, Structural, Instrument, Electrical and Piping. Proficient in MS Word, Excel, Power point, AutoCAD and preferably STAAD Vendor shop inspection and job site engineering experience is an advantage

INSTRUMENT ENGINEERS

•Experience in the Instrumentation and Control Engineering design in Petroleum Refinery, Petrochemical Plant and related areas. Experienced in Instrument Construction Drawings, Design Documents, Calculations and Material take-off. Has the ability to interpret P&ID, Logic Diagrams and Loop Diagrams. Knowledge in 2D/3D CAD, Microstation, 3D PDS and Intools would be an advantage.

ROTATING EQUIPMENT ENGINEERS

• Has in-depth knowledge of rotating equipment such as pumps, compressors, steam turbines, and gas turbines. Knowledgeable about the complete cycle of equipment specification, supplier selection, purchase of equipment, supplier drawing review, equipment acceptance and delivery to site, site (erection) support and turnover.

STATIC EQUIPMENT ENGINEERS

• Work experience in Pressure Vessel, Storage Tanks, and/or Heat Exchanger design. Proven ability to perform stress analysis and design input and output checking of people handled.

CIVIL ENGINEERS

• With experience in Civil/Structural Design of structures relating to oil and gas facilities. Ability to prepare structural layout and analysis and design of various structures. Proficient in STAAD Pro. Knowledge in AutoCAD, Microstation, X-Steel and other 3D Engineering tools. Knowledge in PDS and Visual Basic Programming is an advantage. Experience in field engineering.

QA/QC ENGINEERS

•Work experience in Quality Control gained from refinery, petrochemical and industrial projects. Experienced in quality control for material receiving, in-process inspection (welding, dimensional, etc.) and review of quality documents. Knowledge in material testing, NDT results interpretation. Must be conversant with codes and international standards such as AWS, ASME, ASMT etc. Must be knowledgeable in ISO 9001:2000, ISO 14001:2004 and Audit techniques.

SR. BUILDING ENGINEERS
(Architectural, Structure, Electrical)

•Graduate of Architecture, Civil and Electrical Engineering. With at least 10 years work experience in engineering design and construction of petrochemical-related buildings / facilities. Must be able to prepare Basic and Detailed Design Engineering for building Structural, Electrical and Architectural that includes preparation of drawings, calculations, specs, material requisitions and BOQ. Can operate structural calculation softwares like STAAD, etc. Possess good oral and written English communication skills. Exercises self-discipline, patience and firmness in decision-making. Possess basic management, planning and motivating skills. Knowledge of ISO Quality Management System. Willing to be assigned at local and overseas project site

FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERS.

•With experience in Fire Protection Engineer, capable of preparing and reviewing the Fire Protection System Design documents such as General Specification for Active Fire Protection Systems, Specification for Passive Fire Protection system design, Layout Drawings, Fire Protection (Fire Fighting and Fire Alarm & Gas) Systems, Piping & Instrument Diagrams for Fire Fighting System, Block or Schematic Flow Diagram, Fire Protection Equipment Data Sheet (such as sprinkler, monitors, CO2, Dry chemical, Clean Agent, hydrants, fire truck/mobile fire fighting equipment, etc.), Cause and Effect matrix for fire alarm and gas detection systems, firewater system hydraulic calculations (firewater main line and water spray deluge and foam systems), Requisition for Fire Protection Equipment and Technical Evaluation Report. Can review Invitation to Bid (ITB)/Engineering FEED documents and vendor documents review. Able to supervise Fire Protection vendor at site during Commissioning of Fire Protection Systems.

SYSTEM-PACKAGE EQUIPMENT ENGINEERS

•Experience in the field of engineering, proficient in multi-discipline technical coordination. Has specialized skill/ technical know-how in system-package technology (e.g. water treatment system, wastewater treatment system, nitrogen generation system, glycol dehydration system, etc). Familiar in preparing equipment Specification, Data Sheet and Requisition Has experience in Technical bid evaluation job and review of vendor documents.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

•With experience in substation design & preparation of power, lighting and grounding layout in oil & gas or petrochemical facilities. Has the ability to perform common electrical calculation, knowledge in ETAP, PDS Intergraph, 3D engineering & associated tools would be an advantage. Must be experienced in field eng'g work such as preparation of field change sheet or site supervision.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Candidates must be a graduate of any 5-year engineering course with at least three (3) to fifteen (15) years relevant work experience. Possesses excellent coordination & communication skills, pro-active & can handle stress & pressure, proficient with the latest and relevant software in their respective field of expertise.

Foreign nationals and Filipino engineers working overseas who want to return to Philippines are welcome to apply. Attractive compensation awaits the successful applicants.

Please enclosed a cover/application letter, comprehensive resume with 2 x 2 picture and other credentials to:

P.O. BOX 121
AYALA ALABANG
1799 Muntinlupa City

STAM BUILDERS & DEVELOPERS, INC.

Is looking for Dedicated

LICENSED CIVIL / AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS

BASIC QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Graduate of Civil or Agricultural Engineering; with good academic records.
- Minimum of 5 years hands-on experience with land development works and horizontal construction. Experience with reputable construction companies would be a plus.
- Must be adept in road construction & maintenance, site grading works, water impound dams and maintenance of heavy equipment.
- Must be willing to be based in the farm (1 ½ hr from Cagayan De Oro). Willing to work on-site 6 days a week.
- A good working knowledge on basic surveying would be an added advantage.

*****We will offer competitive salary (with staff house facility) to the Qualified Applicant.***

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO SEND THEIR RESUME WITH PICTURE AND TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS TO:

THE RECRUITMENT MANAGER
(CODE: CIVIL/AGRI ENGINEERS)
80 Roces Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Or Email: tink.shelley@gmail.com

****Previous applicants need not apply.***

JOB OPENING

CIVIL/ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

- MALE/FEMALE W/ OR W/O LICENSE - 22 to 30 yrs old
- COMPUTER LITERATE, KNOWLEDGED IN AUTOCAD IS AN ADVANTAGE
- PREFERABLY RESIDENT OF ANTIPOLO, CAINTA AND MARIKINA

BRING YOUR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ WITH 2x2 PICTURE AND TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AT

GLOVETT CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION
OFFICE #6 MICHAEL ST., KINGSVILLE SUBD., ANTIPOLO CITY
LOOK FOR MR. ROY EUGENIO/MR. DENNIS DE LEON
TEL. #645-6119 & 645-9077

WE ARE EXPANDING:

SALES EXECUTIVE / PRODUCT MANAGERS

- Must be Electrical/Electronic Engineering Graduate
- At least 3-4 years experience in instrument sales
- Male/Female, 25-30 years of age
- Must be result-oriented, self-starter with integrity and discipline
- Excellent communication & presentation skills
- Valid driving license

Please submit your Resumé at

SENSING TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION
457-B Boni Avenue New Zaniga,
Mandaluyong City
Tel. No.: 532-0088, 533-5977, 535-5647

The best companies need the best people. visit us at www.jobmarketonline.com

iBank
International Exchange Bank

Your Job. Your Life.
Be the Best at both with *iBank.*

METRO MANILA BRANCHES AND NEW BRANCHES
(CEBU LAPU-LAPU, DAVAO- MAGSAYSAY, URDANETA PANGASINAN,
SAN PABLO LAGUNA AND BAGUIO)

BRANCH CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATE
- Will be responsible in client/account servicing in the branch
- Graduate of any 4 year business course

BRANCH SALES ASSOCIATE
- Will be responsible for handling and processing account opening and other bank products
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Experience in Bank Branch Operations for at least 1 year will be preferred

BRANCH SALES OFFICER
- Will be responsible in account solicitation for the branch and assisting in the servicing and maintenance of existing account holders
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Experience in a Sales/Marketing function in a bank or any financial institution for at least 2 years will be preferred

BRANCH SALES SPECIALISTS
- This is an entry position eventually leading to Sales Officership. Qualified candidates will undergo classroom and on the job training involving field sales calls, sales planning, prospecting, appointment getting and presentation. Candidates are expected to attain targets for number of sales calls, accounts opened and volume of funds generated.
- Graduate of any 4 year course with strong inclination and high aptitude for sales

BRANCH SERVICE HEAD
- Will be responsible for the over-all Branch Operations
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Experience as Branch Operations Officer or have handled both Branch Cashier and Branch Accountant positions in any Commercial/Universal Bank for at least 2 years will be preferred

BRANCH RELATIONSHIP OFFICER
- Will be responsible in formulating plans and strategies to expand relationships within the bank's target market and for implementing of strategies for the branch target marketing in accordance with the Branch Sales Plan
- Experience in a sales function gained from a bank or other financial institutions for at least 2 years will be preferred

BRANCH HEAD
- Current holder of the position in a Universal/ Commercial Bank for at least 3 years

HEAD OFFICE

SENIOR RECRUITMENT ASSOCIATE
- Will be responsible in special sourcing, evaluating and hiring competent and service-oriented officers and staff
- Graduate of BS Psychology
- Knowledge in Targeted Selection will be an advantage
- Experience in a bank set-up will be preferred

ACCOUNTING ANALYSTS
- Will be responsible for the preparation of the Bank's financial/internal/external regulatory reports or to handle Treasury/Trust Accounting transactions
- Graduate of BS Accountancy, preferably a Certified Public Accountant
- Proficient in MS Office Applications
- Experience in Banking will be preferred

ACCOUNT ASSOCIATES (Kalookan)
- Will be responsible in assisting Account Officers in servicing of accounts and handling of the documentation of accounts
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Must possess good analytical skills, good communication skills, highly developed interpersonal skills and a high sense of responsibility

TRUST INVESTMENT OFFICER (Additional personnel to handle growing business)
- Will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Trust & Investment Center's unit investment trust funds (UITFs) with particular focus on the fixed income fund
- Will provide strategic input on portfolio construction and develop acquisition and exit strategies for core positions

  KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:
  - Compose regular market reviews and outlook prices
  - Provide analytical support in developing investment policies and guidelines (e.g. asset allocation, active/passive mix and performance attribution)
  - Analyze portfolio performance versus long term objectives; Perform attribution analysis by identifying key variances and determining casual factors
  - Work with marketing and sales channels on providing fund/market information to support the sales and marketing effort e.g. overall investment style, key strategy points, etc.

  REQUIREMENTS:
  - Graduate of business related degree from top university; CFA charterholder (or level 2 candidate) is highly desirable.
  - 3-5 years relevant investment analysis, equity research, asset allocation, portfolio management or investment consulting experience
  - Must posses excellent quantitative, writing and interpersonal skills
  - Willingness to work in a cross-functional environment

ACCOUNT OFFICER – Acquired Assets (Cebu)
- Will be responsible in the marketing and selling of all industrial and agricultural ROPOA assets
- Graduate of any 4 year business course, preferably Marketing
- Experience in conducting market/feasibility studies will be preferred

ANALYST/PROGRAMMER
- Will be responsible in translating system specifications into technical specifications & writing program codes
- Graduate of BS Computer Science or any IT related course
- Experience in Banking will be preferred

QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICER
- Will be responsible in evaluating branches to ensure adherence to policies and procedures and to ensure standard implementation of procedures
- Graduate of any 4 year business related course, preferably BS Accountancy
- Experience in a similar function will be preferred

TREASURY, TRUST, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OFFICER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM TRAINEE
- Will undergo training on all Treasury, Trust operations, processes and flow. Qualified trainees will become Treasury, Trust Officers after completion of (1) one year training program
- Graduate of any 4 year busines course; with good scholastic records
- Must possess good analytical skills, good communication skills, highly developed interpersonal skills and a high sense of responsibility

DEALER COORDINATOR
- Will be responsible in soliciting auto loan applications from various Car Dealers
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Experience in auto loans marketing/ operations will be an advantage

Be a part of a company with Global Standards, currently being benchmarked in Service & Competence.

Interested parties are requested to send their comprehensive resumés to any of the addresses below with a 2x2 photo attached.

(POSITION APPLIED FOR)
International Exchange Bank, Recruitment & Placement Sector
4/F, iBank Exchange Building, 142 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

E-mail address: jobs@ibank.com.ph

Visit our website at *www.ibank.com.ph*

Schneider Electric

Schneider Electric (Philippines), Inc., is a multinational-owned organization engaged in the manufacturing and distribution of High Quality Electrical Equipments, and a worldwide leader in Power Distribution, Industrial Control, Automation System, Wiring accessories and Data Communication Devices. We are looking for highly motivated individual to drive the business in North Luzon area and the NCR.

Senior Sales Engineer (1)
Areas of Coverage: National Accounts & NCR End Users

Key Responsibilities
- Promotion of Schneider Electric's Power Distribution, Industrial Controls and Automation core products, systems and solutions to both industrial end users, National Accounts and selected targeted industries.
- Periodic review of sales with the assigned accounts and prioritization of commercial activities in line with the objective of growing the business.
- Regular consultation with the geographical end user team in defining the strategy and recommending commercial actions to meet the set goals.
- Provide and do a presentation of the business update on accounts covered as required during Country level and South East Asia Regional meetings.
- Organize and coordinate National level meetings and trainings for assigned end user accounts.
- Coordinate inter-departmental support to ensure commitments to customers are met.

Our Requirement
- Must be an EE or ECE graduate, with at least 5 years of successful experience in sales or marketing position.
- Must have strong leadership qualities, highly motivated, team player, goal- oriented, good moral character and success- driven individual.
- First rated in oral and written communication skills
- MS Word, Excel & Power Point Proficient

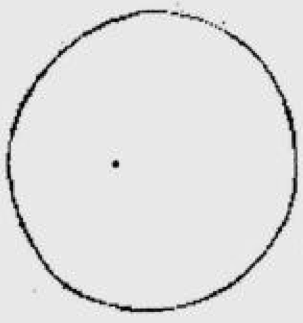
Sales Engineer (1)
Area of Coverage: North Luzon

Key Responsibilities
- Promotion of Schneider Electric's Power Distribution, Industrial Controls and Automation core products, systems and solutions to selected industrial end users in North Luzon.
- Periodic business review within the assigned area of coverage and prioritization of commercial activities in line with the objective of growing the business.
- To define strategy and recommend commercial actions to meet the goals set.
- Provide and do a presentation of the business update on covered accounts as required during every Country business review.
- Organize and coordinate inter-departmental support for product presentations and trainings within the covered region.
- Coordinate technical service support for any after sales issues on the use of Schneider Electric products and/or systems.

Our Requirement
- Must be a resident of Bulacan, Pampanga or Tarlac or willing to be relocated in the said provinces
- Must be an EE or ECE graduate, with at least 5 years of successful experience in sales or marketing position.
- Must have strong leadership qualities, highly motivated, team player, goal- oriented, good moral character and success- driven individual.
- First rated in oral and written communication skills
- MS Word, Excel & Power Point Proficient

Competitive compensation package and appropriate training await the successful candidates. Interested applicants are requested to please send Resume complete with recent photo and copy of school records, stating current and expected salary to:

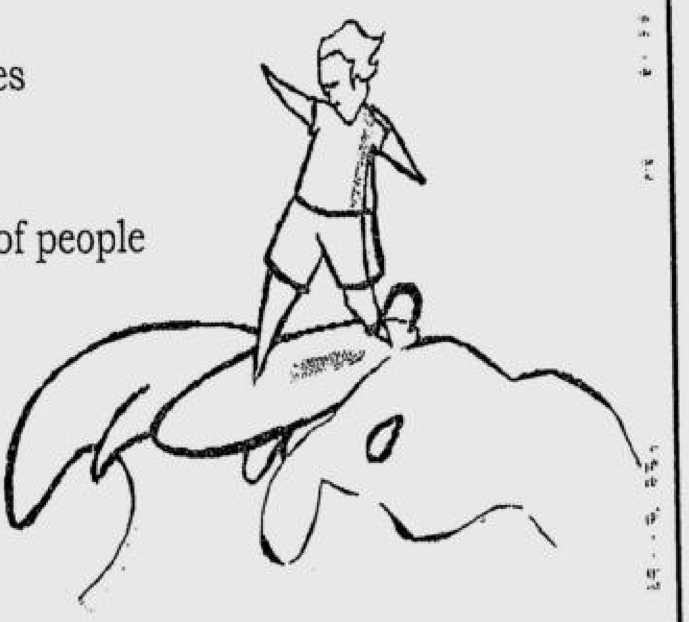
The Human Resources
Schneider Electric (Philippines), Inc.
5th Floor Alco Building, 391 Senator Gil Puyat Avenue,
MAKATI CITY 1209
Lucky.perito@ph.schneider-electric.com



A Fast-growing
Multinational firm
is looking to make
waves in the country

Sales Managers

- Graduates of the top universities
- 30 – 40 years old
- Monthly income of P30,000
- Able to handle diverse groups of people
- Strong sales experience
- Pleasing personality



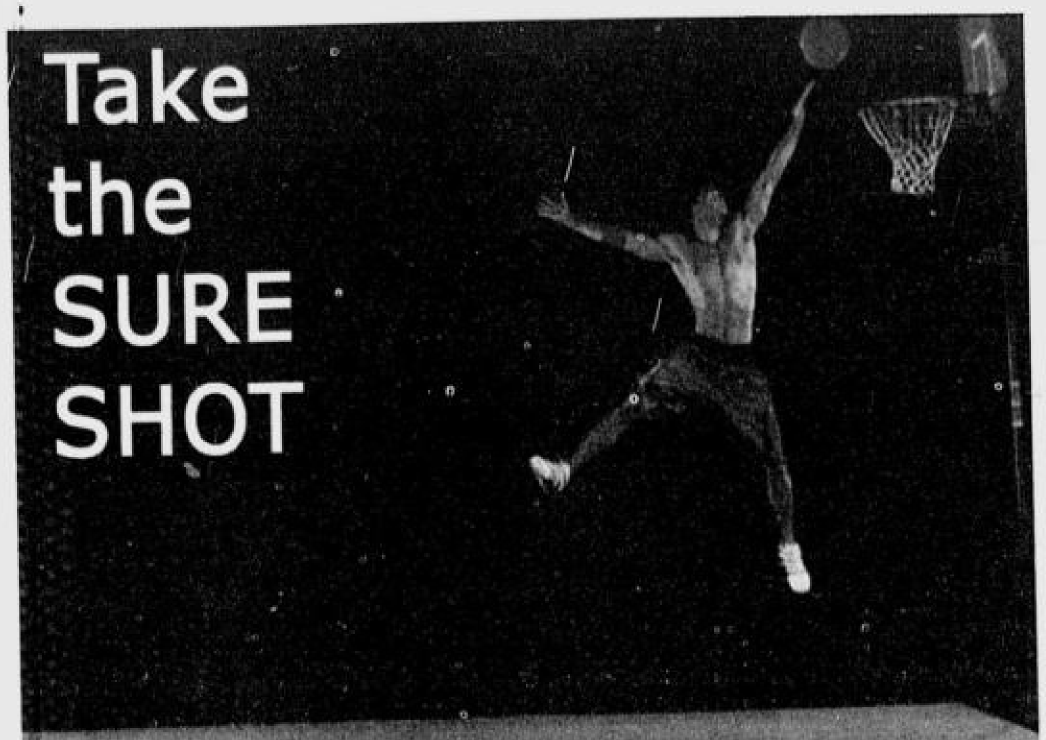
Institutional Synergy, Inc.,
Unit 608, 6/F The Taipan Place, Emerald Avenue,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

E-mail address: isisearch18@gmail.com

inSync
Institutional Synergy, Inc.
EXECUTIVE SEARCH SERVICES

IMMIGRATE TO CANADA
FREE SEMINARS-every Saturday @10am & every Wednesday @3pm-ONLY INVESTORS & BUSINESS PROGRAMS ON THE FEDERAL & PROVINCIAL LEVEL - PRIORITY PROCESSING-PROVINCIAL NOMINEES (less 1yr process); SPOUSES, PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS, SKILLED WORKERS, ENTREPRENEURS, SELF-EMPLOYED & INVESTORS
Standard Immigration Services Inc. - Suite 704, 7th flr. Ortigas Bldg., Ortigas Ave., Pasig Tel (632)631-4983; Telefax (632)638-4774
Cel: 63917-8188180; Email: standardphilippines@yahoo.com
www.standardimmigration.com

KIA ALPHA PHILMOTOR SALES CORP.
is in need of
MARKETING PROFESSIONALS
MALE/FEMALE,
SALES EXPERIENCE IS AN ADVANTAGE
PREFERABLY RESIDENTS OF PASAY, MAKATI OR PARAÑAQUE
APPLY AT:
KIA PASAY
2316 Aurora Blvd., formerly Trumo, Pasay City
Tel. No. 852-1552/854-5036



Agilys provides comprehensive and innovative solutions to BPOs and Call Center staffing. We have the best tools to recruit, assess, train and retain high quality call center specialists.

So, if you want a winning career in the BPO and Call Center Industries, take advantage of promising professional opportunities through Agilys. The ball is in your court, make that career winning shot as a

Call Center Associate

We also have requirements to fill the following post:

- HR Managers
- Operations Managers
- Training and Quality Managers
- Quality Assurance Supervisors
- Quality Assurance Associates
- Workforce Managers
- Workforce Analysts
- Training Supervisors
- Marketing Officers
- Loans Processors
- Accent Coach/Trainers
- Core Skills Trainers
- Product Specific Trainers
- Technical Support Reps
- Business Process Associates
- Technical Writers
- IT Auditors
- Senior Auditors
- Network Administrators
- Network Engineers
- Software Developers
- Technical Architects
- Graphics Designers
- Flash/Multimedia Designers

Email your resume to careers@agilys.com.ph or register and apply online thru our website at www.agilys.com.ph. You may also visit us at our Recruiting Center at

4F Jaka II, 150 Legazpi Street,
Legaspi Village, Makati City 1200
Tel. 893 2445 ext 202/205/208/211
DL. 817 9401

agilys
Service. People. Performance.

A LARGE MANUFACTURING ORGANIZATION IN ASIA

Is looking for the following Top-Notch Management Team Members:

SENIOR FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

- Minimum 3 years extensive experience on financial analysis in a large corporation.
- Graduate of Accountancy or related Finance course and preferably with Master's degree.
- Must be computer literate and adept with presentations.
- With excellent oral and written communications skills and impeccable leadership.

MARKET PLANNING & RESEARCH OFFICERS

- Minimum 3 years experience on market research.
- Graduate of B.S. Statistics or any related Business course.
- Must have extensive knowledge on profitability & market analysis, market surveys & research, and market demand forecast.
- With excellent communication and analytical skills.

PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT SPECIALISTS

- B.S. Industrial Engineering graduate with minimum 5 years hands-on work experience in an industrial/ manufacturing plant.
- With good exposure on various productivity improvement programs, strategic planning, time & motion studies, and others.
- With very good interpersonal, communication and computer skills.

WE OFFER TOP-OF-THE-LINE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS PACKAGE PLUS VERY ATTRACTIVE PERKS AND PRIVILEGES.

PLEASE EMAIL ALL APPLICATIONS TO:

callcenter.qc@gmail.com

- All Applications will be treated with utmost confidentiality.
- We will only reply to short-listed candidates.

PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT APPLY.

WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE

If you are career-driven, goal-oriented, motivated, professional, an achiever, with a proven track record in sales and customer service, have exceptional english communication skills both written and oral, internet & pc savvy

YOU CAN EARN UP TO
P1,000,000
IN A YEAR AS A
SALES ASSOCIATE

www.seacom.ph
for more details

LAKE WASHINGTON COMMUNICATIONS, INC SEATTLE COMMUNICATION SERVICES

312b 3/F LRI Business Plaza,
210 Nicanor Garcia Street,
Bel-Air II, Makati City 1203.
Tel: + 63 898 3848
Email: **recruitment@seacom.ph**

Company Profile: Lake Washington Communications, Inc., formerly Seattle Communication Services, is an e-commerce firm that handles the back-end operations of several US-based websites. We engage in order processing and fulfillment, web design, sales and customer management of a number of online retail stores. With our parent company based in Bellevue, Washington, Lake Washington Communications, Inc. is geared towards providing excellent and high quality 24/7 support to online consumers via voice, e-mail and chat facilities.

MONSTER RADIO RX 93.1

MONSTER RADIO STATIONS IN CEBU AND DAVAO ARE INVITING APPLICANTS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

STATION MANAGER
(CEBU, DAVAO)
- AT LEAST THREE (3) YEARS EXPERIENCE IN THE BROADCAST INDUSTRY.
- PREFERABLY WITH EXPERIENCE IN SALES AND EVENTS
- BROADCAST PROGRAMS MANAGEMENT IS AN ADVANTAGE

SALES MANAGER & ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
(CEBU)
- EXPERIENCE IN BROADCAST SALES IS AN ADVANTAGE
- PERSONABLE, WITH EXCELLENT PRESENTATION AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- MOTIVATED INDIVIDUALS WITH PRIOR SALES EXPERIENCE
- ORGANIZED AND DISCIPLINED

DISC JOCKEYS / NEWSCASTERS
(CEBU, DAVAO)
- MUST BE HIGHLY DISCIPLINED
- FLUENT IN ENGLISH
- EXPERIENCE IN RADIO BROADCASTING IS AN ADVANTAGE

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR
(CEBU, DAVAO)
- EXPERIENCED IN MULTI-TRACK COMPUTER EDITING
- ABILITY TO CONCEPTUALIZE RADIO PRODUCTIONS AND COMMERCIALS

SEND YOUR RESUME TO:

AUDIOVISUAL COMMUNICATORS INC.
MONSTER RADIO RX 93.1
17TH FLOOR STRATA 2000 BUILDING,
EMERALD AVENUE PASIG, METRO MANILA
OR E-MAIL JOBS@MONSTERRADIO.FM

The British Council in the Philippines connects people with learning opportunities and creative ideas from the UK. Our aim is to build lasting relationships between the UK and the Philippines.

We are interested in filling the post of:

Examinations Services Officer
(Ref: ESO-01)

This post will provide effective service support to the Examinations Services Department.

The successful applicant must be a college graduate with at least 3 years working experience and should be able to demonstrate:

- achievement (ability to get things done)
- professional confidence
- strong customer service orientation
- team working
- flexibility
- administrative skills
- Intermediate level IT literacy
- excellent written and oral communication skills in English

It is desirable that the applicant has experience working for an international organisation and/or in marketing.

For full information and to download an application form, please visit our website

www.britishcouncil.org.ph

Completed application forms should be sent to HR@britishcouncil.org.ph **indicating subject reference number.** For applicants without access to the internet, application forms will be available at British Council Knowledge & Learning Centre, 10th Floor, Taipan Place, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Centre, Pasig City. No further documentation need be attached.

Closing date: 19th March 2006

BRITISH COUNCIL

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

SALES SUPERVISOR

A leading distributor of automotive products is in need of a Sales Supervisor to head our Sales Department with a team of Sales Representatives covering Metro Manila and Provincial areas. The applicant must be at least 35 years old, male, a graduate of Marketing or any related course from a reputable school, with good scholastic records and must be very knowledgeable about cars, motor car components, car accessories, car performance/ care products and with a total fervor for cars and motor sports. He must have a good exposure in wholesale, retail, and concessions operations.

Interested applicants must send an application letter, resumé, and colored 2 x 2 photo, transcript of records, and other pertinent documents to:

THE HR / RECRUITMENT OFFICER
P. O. BOX 1785
Manila

Arrow Freight Corporation (AFC)
A Total Logistics Company
is in need of:

PROJECT EMPLOYEE
- Industrial Engineering graduate
- At least 25 years old
- Preferably with experience in logistics operations

JOB DESCRIPTION:
** To conduct Time and Motion Study.*
** To establish standard output.*

DIESEL MECHANIC
- College or Vocational Grad.
- Not more than 30 years old
- Knowledge in diesel engine overhauling
- At least one (1) year experience

Previous applicants need not apply.

Interested applicants may send comprehensive resumé at:
e-mail: arrow@netgazer.com.ph
or apply at:
368 F. San Diego Street, Veinte Reales,
Valenzuela City
or contact our trunkline 294-94-02/03, 294-93-87

CHINABANK

www.chinabank.ph

Since 1920

China Bank. Getting stronger and bigger.
Join us and be part of our growing network.

BRANCH MANAGERS (BM-03-06)
(For Metro Manila, Visayas and Mindanao Areas)
- Above average business and entrepreneurial skills
- With in-depth knowledge of marketing, credit and lending
- At least five (5) years experience as a Branch Manager in a universal / commercial bank

BRANCH CASHIERS / SERVICE OFFICERS (BC-03-06)
(For Metro Manila, Visayas and Mindanao Areas)
- Business course graduate
- With extensive experience in cash operations
- Possess good marketing / selling skills

BRANCH ACCOUNTANTS (BA-03-06)
(For Metro Manila, Visayas and Mindanao Areas)
- At least three (3) years Branch Operations or Audit experience
- Certified Public Accountant
- Assertive, meticulous and control-oriented

BUSINESS PROCESS OFFICER - SYSTEMS & METHODS (BPO-Systems-03-06)
- Graduate of Industrial Engineering, Accountancy or similar background
- Preferably a CPA, if accounting graduate
- At least 3 years experience in project management and in leading teams
- At least 2 years experience in continuous improvement activities in banking
- Must be experienced in standards setting (time and motion study, methods analysis) and reengineering

METHODS OFFICER – SYSTEMS & METHODS (MO-Systems-03-06)
- Graduate of Business Administration, Industrial Engineering or Accountancy
- Preferably a CPA, if accounting graduate
- At least 3 years experience in process analysis and documentation of banking operations
- Must have skills in analysis of workflow / processes
- Must be able to initiate improvement through work simplification or automation

PROJECT MANAGERS (PM-03-06)
- At least 5 years experience in Software Analysis and design
- At least 5 years experience in Project Management in a banking environment
- Working knowledge of multiple programming languages and operating systems and RDBMS

PROGRAMMERS (PROG-03-06)
- At least a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering (Computer / Telecommunication), Computer Science /Information Technology or equivalent course
- Knowledgeable in at least two of the following programming languages: C/C++, Java,Visual Basic, SQL and UBIX
- Fresh graduates may apply

SALES OFFICERS FOR HEAD OFFICE, BINONDO & BRANCHES (SO-03-06)
- Marketing experience preferably with deposit portfolio
- With proven track record in account acquisition and maintenance
- With excellent communication & presentation skills
- Fluency in Fookien for Binondo branches

ACCOUNT OFFICERS FOR HEAD OFFICE & BINONDO (A0-03-06)
(For Account Management, Business Development, Consumer Banking)
- With three (3) to five (5) years experience in Marketing / Credit / Lending
- For Consumer Banking, should be knowledgeable in property appraisal
- With excellent marketing & negotiation skills
- Fluency in Fookien for Binondo branches

MARKETING OFFICERS (MO-03-06)
(For Private Banking, Remittance, Treasury Marketing - Binondo Business Center and Insurance - Cebu)
- With three (3) to five (5) years banking experience in related fields
- Excellent negotiation, presentation and analytical skills
- Aggressive, marketing and results-oriented
- For Private Banking, should have knowledge of investments
- For Insurance, at least 5 years experience as a broker
- Fluency in Fookien for Binondo and Private Banking
- Not more than 35 years old

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS HEAD (FAH-03-06)
- With more than 5 years of substantial experience in Credit Evaluation, primarily involving medium to large corporations and financial institutions
- Graduate of Business Administration / Management, Accountancy, Finance or Economics

CREDIT DOCUMENTATION UNIT HEAD (CDH-03-06)
- With more than 5 years of substantial experience in Credit Documentation
- Graduate of Business Administration or Legal Management; MBA, LLB or JD would be an advantage
- Familiar with relevant external regulations involving credit documentation requirements
- With good process management skills

CREDIT REVIEW OFFICERS (CRO-03-06)
- Graduate of Business Administration, Business Management, Finance, Economics or Accountancy
- At least 2 years of Credit Review or Audit experience in a financial institution
- Familiar with credit lending process

REMEDIAL ACCOUNT OFFICERS (RAO-03-06)
- Graduate of Business Administration, Business Management, Finance, Economics or Accountancy
- At least three (3) years actual remedial management experience in a financial institution
- With strong negotiating and transaction-structuring abilities

SALES ASSOCIATES (SA-03-06)
- Fresh graduates may apply
- Customer service-driven
- With keen interest in selling & dealing with people
- Pleasing and assertive personality
- Fluency in Fookien for Binondo branches

Please send your resumé (with position code indicated at the upper right hand corner), transcript of records and recent 2 x 2 photo on or before April 17, 2006 to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
12th Floor, China Bank Bldg., 8745 Paseo de Roxas corner Villar Street, Makati City
Or via Email: recruitment@chinabank.ph with position code indicated on the subject line.

We are a prestigious **condominium** serving the discriminating needs of VIPs and foreign nationals. Our current vacancy can provide excellent employment opportunities for persons answering the following qualifications:

1. **Accounting Manager**: Female, 25 years old and above, CPA, with at least 3 years experience in managing collection, OPEX / CAPEX and accounting functions in a property management setting. Good interpersonal skills, above-average communication talents and self motivation are must-have traits.
2. **Operations Manager**: Male, 30 years old and above, with at least 5 years relevant experience in running daily operations related to property management, self-starter, excellent people management skills and must have good interpersonal skills. Graduates of engineering, business administration or law are preferred.

Qualified applicants are requested to send their resumé not later than March 18, 2006 to Box No. 158, c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer, Ground Floor, Atrium of Makati, Makati Avenue, Makati City.

FREELANCE WRITERS
PHP 15,000/Assignment

Your assignment is to write 100 short articles of 300 words on given topics

We are looking for diligent, reliable people. Must have a flair for writing, reading and acquiring knowledge on various subjects. Must have access to the internet. Work from home Flexi hours. University students are encouraged.

SIGN UP NOW
WWW.WRITE4PESOS.COM

YSTILO SALON

YSTILO SALON CORPORATION

IMMEDIATE HIRING

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
- Accounting graduate with at least 2 years working experience
- Able to achieve problems analytically, creativity and effectively
- Has a good oral and written communication skills
- Can work with minimal supervision
- Dedicated and TEAM player & can handle pressure
- E-mail your resumé **accountingassthrd@ystilosalon.com**

STORE MANAGERS (Female)
- BS Management Graduate or any related course with or without salon experience
- Has an excellent oral and written communication skills in English and Tagalog
- Able to relate with customers with courtesy and can develop good rapport with co-employees.
- With pleasing personality
- Preferably with experience in fastfood chains
- Dedicated and TEAM player & can handle pressure
- Computer literate and willing to assist client and work on extended hours during weekends and Holidays or as needed.
- E-mail your resumé **storemanagerhrd@ystilosalon.com**

RECEPTIONISTS (Female)
- College Level Graduate
- Has good oral and written communication skills.
- With pleasing personality
- Able to relate with customers with courtesy
- Computer literate
- E-mail your resumé **receptionisthrd@ystilosalon.com**

Senior/Junior Stylists

Interested qualified applicants may send their resume at:
Unit 1501, West Trade Center, 132 West Avenue, 1100 Quezon City.
Tel. Nos. 374-7149 to 51 / 426-4591

From the nation's No. 1 Newspaper: **INQUIRER** **JOB Market**

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

MICROLAB *Since 1960*

"We Provide and Prolong Quality Life"

WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

TECHNICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVES/PRODUCT SPECIALIST FOR NORTHERN/SOUTHERN LUZON AND MANILA

A) MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

- willing to adapt and learn the functions of new technologies and medical equipment.

ANALYTICAL DEPARTMENT

- with background in Natural Sciences and Chemistry, and Medical technology.
- experience in Microscopy and its applications is an advantage.

B) SURGICAL DEPARTMENT

- with background in Medical Technology, ECE graduate

Applicants must be:

- male/female, 23–35 years old
- with pleasing personality
- college education
- must be independent, self starter, hardworking and very determined to excel in the field.
- can communicate well on both written and spoken English
- knowledge in computer and with a valid driver's license.
- willing and physically fit to travel frequently (local and abroad)
- preferably with sales experience.

We offer good compensation package plus commission.

C) ACCOUNTANT

- Male/Female, 21-30 years old
- CPA
- With at least one year experience in general accounting procedures and cost accounting.
- With proficient business writing ability.
- Knowledge in Microsoft office.
- User of computerized accounting system, an advantage.
- Can work with minimum supervision.

D) SUPPORT STAFF

- female, 25-30 years old
- college graduate
- computer literate
- knows how to compose business correspondence
- can communicate well on both and written and spoken English

You may apply via online or you may send your application with I.D. picture, resume, and transcript of records to:

HRD DEPT.
MICROLAB
2636 Tramo Line cor. Alvares St.
Pasay City, P.O. BOX 3765 Manila
microlabphils@attglobal.net

Previous applicants need not apply.

ILDAEIL-EDU, INC.

International Education Center

We are a PEZA-registered company located in RCBC Plaza, Makati City. We are pioneers in providing cutting-edge service for English as a Second Language to our clients in Korea. We aim for international standards in our programs, and are looking for:

ONLINE ENGLISH INSTRUCTORS

We offer:

- ✓ **Full-time (5AM-2PM or 2PM-11PM) and Part-time (5AM-9AM / 5PM-11PM / 6 PM-11PM / 7PM-11PM)**
- ✓ **Competitive Compensation and Benefits**
- ✓ **Subsidized Housing for qualified instructors**
- ✓ **Excellent Working Environment**
- ✓ **Professional & Culture-Sensitive Management**

Requirements

- Passionate about teaching
- Preferably ages 20-35 yrs. old
- Graduate of any 4-year course, preferably Education, English, Literature, Communication Arts
- Excellent English oral and written communication skills
- With an American Accent (an advantage)
- Computer Literate

Responsibilities

- Teaches English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Accomplishes daily reports, lesson plans, extension lessons and narrative progress reports
- Encourages students to high-level thinking (critical/creative/decision-making)
- Participates in training & curriculum development

Email resumé to **recruitment.ildaeil@yahoo.com** (text only) or drop off resumés at the 26th Floor, Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Avenue, Makati City Tel No. 8451026 / 8451040

www.callstudy.co.kr www.i-bizacademy.com www..themeschool.com

---

TOP PERFORMER AWARDEE 2002-2005

RELIABLE RECRUITMENT CORPORATION
(POEA License No. 280LB-052802)
WEST INDIES, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
in cooperation with EASTMAN & ASSOCIATES LTD.
(Accreditation No. 76270)
needs the ff skilled workers

5 - STEEL DETAILERS
3 - PROJECT MANAGER
3 - PROJECT PLANNER
10 - ASPHALT PLANT MECHANICS
10 - ASPHALT PLANT OPERATORS
5 - MECHANICS with experience in CATERPILLAR EQUIPMENT

Qualifications:

- Age: 25-40 years old
- Minimum of 3 years work experience
- Knowledge in batching plant and mixer

3 - PROJECT DIRECTOR
3 - PROJECT MANAGERS
3 - SITE SUPERVISORS
5 - PLANNERS
5 - QUANTITY SURVEYORS
5 - MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
10 - MECHANICS
10 - DRAFTSMAN

Qualifications:

- Age: 33-45
- Minimum of 5 years experience
- Project Directors/Managers must have Civil Engineering background
- Knowledge in project management and execution in construction industry
- Experience in Sewage projects an advantage
- Ex-saudi will be given preference

Please submit Resumé with detailed job description to:

RELIABLE RECRUITMENT CORPORATION
Reliable Building
1166 Grey Street, Ermita, Manila
Tel. No. 522-2128 / 525-1935 / 526-1310

FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY, NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED
MAG-INGAT SA ILLEGAL RECRUITER

The Leading Fair Trade Organization in the country is looking for committed and highly qualified individuals to handle the following positions:

MARKETING SPECIALIST

- Business Graduate with 4-5 years of successful working experience preferably in a food related business
- Experience in marketing consumer products, distribution and supply chain
- Working knowledge in Food Product Development
- Experience in an NGO or development set-up is an advantage
- International exposure to food and craft markets is an advantage
- Flexible and can travel
- Team-player with excellent inter-personal skills

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION SPECIALIST

- Bachelor's degree in Business, Economics, Development Management and related field
- At least three (3) years of experience with development program activity and one (1) year of directly related professional experience in fundraising.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Computer literate and knowledgeable in Accounting and Finance
- Research skills
- Knowledge in overseas development work particularly in the field of enterprise development and fair trade

HR AND ADMINISTRATION SPECIALIST

- BS in Psychology, Management, Social Science, Human Resource, Industrial Relations, Development Communications, Education and other related fields
- At least five (5) years of work experience in human resources, personnel management, industrial relations, education and training
- Working knowledge on salary and benefits analysis
- With substantial administrative and management experience in NGO or any related industry
- Excellent interpersonal relations
- Excellent written and oral communications

MANAGEMENT AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS ASSISTANT

- BS Computer Science or Information Technology or Computer Engineering
- At least three (3) years of MIS or IT or Computer related experience
- Preferably with experience in Corporate Planning Work

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

- Bachelors degree in Business Administration/Management or other related field
- At least 1-2 years of working experience
- Computer literate
- Good interpersonal and communication skills

Interested applicants are required to send a letter of intent and comprehensive resumé to:
pftqc@apftl.org.ph or to **trogel@apftl.org.ph**
not later than March 17, 2006.

You can also fax your resumé to (02) 454-1567.
We will only respond to qualified applicants.

We are a gender-fair organization.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development
Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills
Quezon City
Telephone No. 931-8101 to 07

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (WB-BRD) towards the cost of the **Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services Project (KALAHI-CIDSS)**, and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payment of professional services under this Contract.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), which is the lead implementing agency for this flagship project of the government in fighting poverty now invites Individual Proponents for the hiring of a **Brand Value Management Specialist** to assist the KC National Project Management Office (NPMO) in devising a brand strategy that will guide the development and management of the KALAHI-CIDSS: KKB Brand.

The **Brand Value Management Specialist** shall deliver the following outputs:

1. **Reports**
    - KALAHI-CIDSS Brand Strategy Report
    - Guidelines on internal brand alignment
    - Guidelines on Project Verbal Identity
    - Guidelines on the Use of the Project Visual Identity System
2. **Creatives**
    - **Project Visual Identity System Designs and Templates**
        - Project colors
        - Logo
        - Nameplate
        - Templates
            - Subproject marker
            - Subproject billboard
            - KC Municipality billboard
            - Stationary
            - Letterheads
            - Calling cards
            - Other visual communications materials recommended by the Brand Strategy Report

Individuals that have the following qualifications may submit an Expression of Interest:

- Two (2) years experience in Brand Management
- Experience in brand value management consultancy for development oriented organizations

Interested Applicants may submit a written **Expression of Interest and Comprehensive Resumé** to the **Bids & Awards Committee Secretariat** at 2nd floor (Old Building), DSWD Central Office, Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City with telephone number 931-8101 local 217 or telefax no. 951-71-16 until **March 17, 2006 at 5:00 P.M.**

(Sgd.) DELIA BAWAN
Asst. Director and
BAC Vice Chairperson

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

An exclusive distributor of a premium brand agricultural irrigation system is looking for a

SENIOR SALES STAFF

with the following qualifications:

- Between 25-40 years old;
- Must be a licensed Engineer (Mechanical or Civil Engineer preferred);
- Must have at least 2 years experience in sprinkler / drip irrigation systems;
- Must be computer literate;
- Preferably with sales experience and willing to travel in Mindanao;
- Successful candidate must be willing to relocate to Davao City.

Interested applicants are invited to handcarry their application letter (with colored photo), bio-data and transcript of records to:

INTERNATIONAL HEAVY EQUIPMENT CORPORATION
155 Panay Avenue, South Triangle, Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: 929-3547 to 49

A well-established Agribusiness Equipment company has immediate opening for

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- Accounting graduate with initiative
- With 1-2 years work experience, below 30 yrs. old
- Computer literate
- Good opportunity with a very stable company

Please send your Resumé
and Transcript of Records to:
M.C.P.O. Box 2258 Makati City 1262

IIRR

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

The International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) is a global intermediary development organization working in several countries with the poor and their communities as our partner, enabling them to improve their lives and achieve their full potential. At present, IIRR is seeking to fill the post of:

Program Specialist Water/Watershed Management

The Program Specialist, Water/Watershed Management is responsible for planning, developing, implementing and coordinating program activities particularly, but not solely, those focusing on water resources and watershed management consistent with regional center program goals and objectives. As a member of one or more program teams, the post provides process-based and technical inputs and resources to field program initiatives, education & training activities and publication & communication processes. Other key responsibilities include identifying and implementing suitable action research and documenting experiences and lessons learned, contributing to the development and implementation of planning, monitoring, evaluation and learning at the project and program levels, and identifying opportunities for generating resources and developing concept notes, project proposals and other relevant tools for resource development.

The successful candidates should have the following: at least five (5) years experience in water resources/watershed management program planning, monitoring and evaluation within a rural development framework. Preferably, with work experience outside of your own culture (i.e., regional or international experience); a degree in agriculture, soil and water management or other related discipline, Master's degree preferred; excellent written and oral communication skills in English, with knowledge of one or more Asian languages a plus; strong analytical skills; demonstrated ability in conceptual and operational skills suited to rural development programs and projects; knowledge or experience in action research methodologies; familiarity with methods, tools and techniques in participatory planning, monitoring and evaluation; a team player and ability to work productively with teams; ability to work effectively in a multidisciplinary and multicultural work environment; and computer proficient.

This post reports to the Director, Regional Center for Asia and is based in Silang, Cavite, Philippines. Qualified applicants should send a letter of interest not later than **March 31, 2006**, together with curriculum vitae; contact information; and three letters of references with address and contact numbers to:

The Human Resources Office
International Institute of Rural Reconstruction
Km. 39, Aguinaldo Highway, Silang, 4118, Cavite
Telephone/Fax: (+6346) 414 2417/(+632) 886 4385 to 87
E-Mail: HumanResources@iirr.org or visit our website: www.iirr.org

We will respond only to short-listed candidates.

IIRR is an equal opportunity employer.

THE NEWEST HEALTH CLUB
IN PARAÑAQUE IS SOON TO OPEN

WE ARE IN NEED OF THE FF:

- ■ **FEMALE THERAPIST** - 18 to 25 years old
- ■ **ACCOUNTANT** - Accounting graduate, at least 2 years working experience
- ■ **HEALTH CLUB SUPERVISORS** - male not more than 30 years old
- ■ **ROOM BOYS** - w/ experience at least high school graduate
- ■ **JANITORS** - w/ experience at least high school graduate
- ■ **ASSISTANT COOK** - w/ experience
- ■ **DISH WASHERS** - at least high school graduate
- ■ **VALET PARKERS**
- ■ **MAKE-UP ARTIST**
- ■ **BAR BOYS** - w/ experience
- ■ **DOORMAN** - 5'6" and above
- ■ **STOCKMAN** - w/ experience

Applicants may bring their resumé w/ 2x2 picture on March 13, 2006, 9:00 a.m. onwards at Poseidon Health Club, Coastal Mall, Brgy. Tambo, Parañaque City

---

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT IN A LAW FIRM

ASSOCIATE LAWYERS

1) preferably U.P. or ATENEO graduates
2) minimum of 2 yrs. experience in litigation

LEGAL SECRETARIES

1) w/ pleasing personality
2) must be computer literate
3) w/ experience working in a law firm

Interested applicants are requested to submit their applications & resumés at Suite 806, Park Trade Center Bldg., 1716 Investment Drive, Madrigal Business Park, Alabang, Muntinlupa City. Email address: **barbsala@yahoo.com**

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT
Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Q.C.,
Tel. No. 931-8101 to 07

NOTICE OF VACANCY

In compliance with the provisions of RA 7041, the Department of Social Welfare and Development has a vacant Director III position with the following qualification standard:

(1) DIRECTOR III, SG-27, WITH ITEM NO. OSEC-DSWDB-DIR3-69-2004 (Policy Development and Planning Bureau)

Education : Master's degree
Experience : 1 year experience in management; 2 years experience in strategic planning, policy analysis and development, logical framework development; relevant experiences in project development, project proposal packaging and resource generation-fund accessing
Training : 24 hours of training relevant to planning, policy analysis and development and logical framework development
Eligibility : Career Service Executive (CSEE) / Career Executive Service preferably

Interested applicants may submit their application and comprehensive resumé with 2x2 ID picture to the Director, Human Resource Management Development Service, DSWD on or before March 24, 2006.

(Sgd.) MARIE ANGELA S. GOPALAN
Director, HRMDS

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS INSTANTLY

VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB Market

1x1
1x1
1x1
1x1
1x1
SIEMENS

Take the lead. Choose Siemens.

Hiring Bonus
We have an aggressive ramp up to meet our growing business and demanding customer needs — and we want you on board as soon as possible. Earn up to Php 15,000 cash, depending on your qualifications and hiring date.

Compensation Package
We believe in active responsibility for both business targets and people. We are competitive — our compensation and benefits packages will prove it.

Performance Incentive
We reward performance. Our quarterly incentive scheme will entitle you to earn additional income based on performance achievements.

Employee Referral Program
Our employees know us best. Successful referrals from employees are entitled to a rewards program worth at least Php 5,000 cash, plus gift certificates worthy of the latest gadget.

Health and Well Being
Your health is important to us. And because the health of your dependents is also a concern, we will cover them with our medical plan upon your permanent employment.

Provident Plan
We care for your future. While a big pay check is good for the short term, we want you to start going beyond. Our provident plan lets you save up for the rainy days, and your investment will be matched by the Company. If you stay with us, you have the chance to double your savings.

Career Advancement
We are Siemens. We have been around for more than 150 years in 190 countries. For one, our IT outsourcing services spans five continents and 44 countries including the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Germany, Canada, Turkey, Singapore, and now the Philippines.

While your career choices and advancement are partly your personal initiative, the opportunities we provide are endless.

Join us.

Technical Solutions Specialists

Basic level

- Solid IT background and excellent hardware, software and network troubleshooting skills
- At least one year of call center experience providing IT support
- Strong customer service orientation
- Excellent English communication skills
- Willing to work on shifts

Advanced level

Proficiency in Operating Systems and Networks, Groupware, Internetworking / VPN, Lotus Notes, Database and Proprietary Software, in addition to qualifications for the basic level.

Eastwood City Cyberpark Site & Recruitment Center
30/F Cyber One Building
Eastwood City Cyberpark
Libis, Quezon City
Tel: 702-0200 | Fax: 814-9988

jobs.ph@siemens.com
www.siemens.com
0917-SIEMENS

Walk-in applicants are welcome.

Makati Recruitment Office
16/F Salcedo Tower
169 H.V. Dela Costa St.
Salcedo Village, Makati City
Tel: 878-9495 | Fax: 878-9400

SIEMENS
Global network of innovation

D1 Oils Asia Pacific, Inc. in preparation for expansion in the Philippines is looking for

Regional Business Coordinators

Candidates will be selected from the 12 regions of the Philippines.

Qualifications:

- Dynamic, self motivated, goal oriented.
- Must be involved in the business sector of the regions
- Familiar in dealing with NGO's and corporations.

Please provide a brief summary of experience to:

Richard Torres
E-mail address: richardtorres@d1sea.com

D1 Oils Asia Pacific, Inc.
Unit 1801, One San Miguel Avenue Condominium
No. 1 San Miguel Ave. cor. Shaw Blvd.
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. No. 02-6876357
Telefax No. 02-6876360

SUBIC BAY GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
"Come for Golf, stay for the Good life"

OPERATIONS MANAGER

- 30-48 years old
- Male or Female
- Graduate of Business Administration, Marketing or any other Business Related Course/ with Master's degree
- 3-5 Years Experience in same field
- Knowledge in Golf Operations is a plus factor
- Professional driver's license holder

FOOD & BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR

- Male & Female
- 28-35 years old
- Graduate of Hotel & Restaurant Management with Master's Degree
- 3-5 years experience in Hotel & Restaurant
- Driving skills is a plus factor

MARKETING SUPERVISOR

- 28-35 years old
- Female/male
- Graduate of Business Administration, Marketing or Management
- With Master's degree
- 3-5 years experience as Marketing Supervisor
- With driving skills

GOLF COURSE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

- Male or Female
- At least 25 to 40 years old
- Associates degree in Golf Course Turf Management or related field, plus three (3) years of experience in golf course ground maintenance.
- One (1) year of additional golf course experience may substitute for one (1) year College, up to a maximum of two (2) years substitution.
- Advanced knowledge of agronomy and turf grass management practices; a working knowledge of golf facility construction principles, practices and methods; and a thorough understanding of the rules and strategies of the game of golf.
- Driver's license holder
- Will be required to obtain and maintain a valid pesticide applicator's license.

Interested parties may apply personally every Tuesday & Thursday 10am to 4pm or send their comprehensive resumé with recent photo, copy of TOR to:

SUBIC BAY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
Human Resources Department
Bldg. 6900 Binictican Drive, Subic Bay Freeport Zone
or email: jackhu@subictel.net • jpasmala@yahoo.com
Submit your applications not later than March 20, 2006

WELL-KNOWN MANUFACTURER OF BRANDED CHILDREN PRODUCTS INVITES ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS

ARTIST / ILLUSTRATOR

• Graduate in Fine Arts, Graphic Design, Advertising, or any design related courses; • Ability to create and illustrate cartoon images and children's characters; • Must have skills in all type of creative media, i.e. pencil, ink, water color, etc.; • Must be creative, artistic, & hardworking; • Knowledge of Illustrator, Photoshop, Freehand, CorelDraw, etc. will be an advantage.

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

• Graduate in Fine Arts, Graphic Design, Advertising, or any design related courses; • Must have knowledge & experience working with Photoshop, Illustrator or Freehand, and other multi-media software; • Must be creative, artistic, & motivated; • Knowledge in operations of prepress equipments, i.e. scanners, imagesetters, etc. will be a great advantage.

All applicants must be between 20 to 35 years old and preferably a born-again Christian. We especially welcome candidates who reside in Quezon City, Caloocan, Bulacan areas or northern parts of Metro Manila. Please send your resumé with cover letter clearly indicating only one or the other of the above positions you are applying for, a recent ID photo, samples of your work, xeroxed copy of Transcript of Records, and your LANDLINE phone number to:

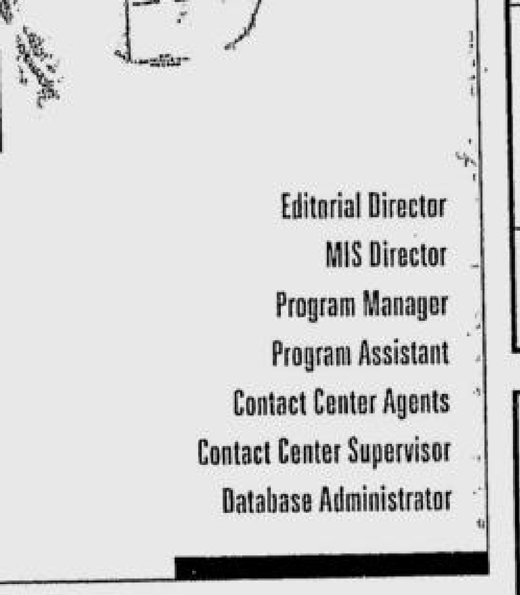
P.O. Box 408
Greenhills,
San Juan 1502
Metro Manila

Or email the above requirements to:
jclcpi_hrd@yahoo.com

---

teamasia®

One size doesn't fit all



Public Relations • Creatives • Event Management • Training

Not just your ordinary company. Requires custom fit.

TeamAsia, a corporate communications consulting firm, is in need of highly competent, energetic key players. If you are creative, resourceful, and self-motivated, we have a job tailored for you. Join our dynamic team and take part in providing high value, world-class, innovative services such as creative design, media relations, event conceptualization and management, database and direct marketing, and strategic marketing and promotion. Contact us for a custom fitting today.

Log on to www.teamasia.com\recruitment\index.html or email your resume to careers@teamasia.com
Hamlin-Iturralde Corporation, Unit 308, Building B, The Plaz@, Northgate Cyberzone
Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang 1781 Muntinlupa City, Metro Manila, Philippines

Editorial Director
MIS Director
Program Manager
Program Assistant
Contact Center Agents
Contact Center Supervisor
Database Administrator

A leading Real Estate Company is in need of

CALL CENTER AGENTS

- Good English Communication Skills
- Willing to work night shift
- Prior call center experience an advantage
- Knowledge in the field of real estate

Email application letter and attach resume (MS Word document) to apply@centuryasia.com.ph

---

WANTED
HIGH SCHOOL & GRADE SCHOOL TEACHERS
for S.Y. 2006-2007
Apply w/ TR and Resumé at:
FRANCISCO SCHOOL
045 Quirino Highway, Baesa, Q.C.
Tel. No. 362-85-73 / 455-49-88

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION REQUIRES

Community-based Coordinator
(Reaching Every Barangay: Pasig, Parañaque and Taguig)

Duties:

1. Assist in the establishment of effective communication system between participating community and public health system;
2. Provide key support to facilitate community development and organization;
3. Guide the public health system in the establishment of effective and meaningful linkages with the participating community;
    - Facilitate and support health center staff in moving forward the process
4. Provide monitoring and supervision to the different participating communities:
    - Meet at least once a week with key community stakeholders
    - Conduct a systematic review of the ongoing work based on agreements with stakeholders
    - Identify with communities and health staff members ways on how to improve the ongoing process
    - Facilitate agreements between community and health center staff on how to move forward the process
    - Guide and support community in the data collection, processing and analysis
5. Provide technical support to the project management unit and participate in its regular meetings
6. Collaborate with partner agencies in the establishment of mechanisms to coordinate the network that is working in the implementation of the project;
7. Disseminate information to project stakeholders.

Qualifications and skills/knowledge required:

Extensive experience in community-based work (facilitation and management)
Experience working with government and local government agencies
Willing to travel to depressed areas
Excellent knowledge of both written and spoken Tagalog and English.

Education:

College graduate in any course but preferably in one of these areas: Social Science, Psychology, Public Health

Only well-qualified candidates should apply with a detailed curriculum vitae and recent passport size photograph to:

WHO REPRESENTATIVE'S OFFICE
P.O. Box 2932
Manila

no later than one week following this advertisement. **Only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted.**

SMOKING IS BANNED IN THE ORGANIZATION'S PREMISES

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's most widely read and circulated newspaper in the country is in need of:

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SUPERVISORS

to work for our provincial distributor partners

and shall be based in all major provincial cities of the Philippines *(e.g. Baguio, San Fernando, Olongapo, Bacolod, Iloilo, Cebu, Cagayan de Oro, etc.)*

QUALIFICATIONS:

☐ College graduates from the localities;
☐ Highly motivated; aggressive; hardworking;
☐ Must possess excellent oral and written communication skills both in English and Filipino;
☐ Preferably male, willing to work on a graveyard shift and in a fast-paced, dynamic and flexible environment;
☐ Background in sales is not necessary, but an advantage;
☐ Applicants must be living or be very familiar with the abovementioned provinces.

Send your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:

THE HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer, Inc.
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

CORRECTION: In the March 5 issue of Job Market, an announcement ad for *JOBZ: Employment Expo* containing the company profiles of participating companies misstated the corporate name of ShoeMart, Inc. and interchanged the profiles of ShoeMart, Inc. and SM Supermalls. The following should have been published:

SHOEMART, INC.

The SM Department Store chain is the acknowledged trendsetter and innovator in the Philippine retail scene. Its exciting merchandise mix, world class interiors, one-stop shopping concept, service, and value-plus pricing has made it part of the lives of many Filipinos.
The first SM Department store opened in downtown Manila in 1972. Today, it has 24 branches strategically located around Metro Manila and key provinces in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.
The SM Department store chain is part of SM, a dynamic group of companies founded by Henry Sy, Sr. as a shoe store in 1958.

SM SUPERMALLS

The SM Supermalls have spearheaded what is known as the malling lifestyle in the Philippines, wherein malls have become gathering places where family members and friends can shop, eat, and have fun together. More than being shopping, leisure, and entertainment destinations, SM's supermalls have been catalysts for business and employment in the communities they serve.
There are currently twenty three malls owned and operated by SM Prime Holdings, the country's largest owner and developer of shopping malls. Totaling more than 2.5 million square meters in great shopping and leisure space, these are visited by more than 1.5 million customers everyday. Five more scheduled to open this year, including the Mall of Asia, which is envisioned to be the premiere destination mall in the Asia-Pacific region.

WANTED

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

If you are female, single, 23-32 years old, atleast 5'3" in height, fair complexioned, presentable, good integrity, responsible, intelligent, excellent oral and written English, college educated (good knowledge of MS Office Applications), willing to travel abroad, with a passion for work and life, a JOB is waiting for you in an INTERNATIONAL COMPANY with offices in Ortigas, very good working conditions and excellent compensation. APPLY NOW! Send your RESUME with PHOTO to **careers@cinnovation.ph**

GLOBALBRANDS manufacturer of the famous brands Vulcaseal and Rugby and considered as the market leader in the construction chemicals industry

RUGBY · POWER MIX · AddMix

JR. CADET ENGINEER
Graduate of any engineering course, preferably of Industrial Engineering; with experience in warehousing and inventory management; with driving skills
Work Base: Tanay, Rizal

BUSINESS BUILDING OFFICERS – EL KAPITAN

(Detailing and marketing of marine and all-purpose epoxy to end-users)

College level; with background in epoxies, boat-making, or carpentry; adept with product presentations and demonstrations; equipped with good sales aptitude; can effectively communicate in English & Filipino & the local dialect; familiar with area assignment

Work Area: North Luzon / Base – Pampanga or Pangasinan

Letter of application, comprehensive resume and 2x2 colored picture may be hand delivered or send via e-mail:
GLOBAL BRANDS CO., INC. Penthouse, 35th Floor, Raffles Corporate Center, Emerald Avenue Ortigas Center, Brgy. San Antonio, Pasig City 1600 Philippines ;
e-mail address : recruitment@globalbrands.com.ph Tel No. 900-5656 loc 607

WANTED PROGRAMMER

1. MALE, Graduate of BS Computer Science, Computer Engineering or IT related courses.
2. With 1 to 2 years relevant working experience.
3. Knowledgeable in WAN/LAN networking and web-based programming.
4. Must be able to start at short notice.
5. Willing to learn and can read/understand program flow based from existing Program code.
6. Must have hands-on experience in handling systems (Accounting, Payroll, and Invoicing).
7. Knowledge in Progress is an added advantage but not required.

Please come with your comprehensive resume, transcript of records and recent 2 x 2 ID picture to: **AIT TECHNOLOGY, INC.** Unit 2102C East Tower, PSE Centre, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center Pasig City. Tel. nos.: 637-3531 and 637-3526.

AHEAD
TUTORIAL & REVIEW

AHEAD is the leading and the most awarded tutorial and review center in the country. AHEAD offers the best review classes for the admission tests of top colleges and universities, tutorials for all subjects from preschool to the graduate level and language instruction for professionals.

ACADEMIC TUTORS (Part/Full-Time)
For part time position, must be available from 2pm onwards
REVIEW LECTURERS (Part/Full-Time)
Must be top graduates or teachers of UP, Ateneo, La Salle
ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS (Part/Full-Time)
FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHERS (PartTime)
MANAGERS
ADMIN ASSISTANT
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
SECRETARY
WRITER, EDITOR
LAY OUT/GRAPHIC ARTIST
MANAGEMENT TRAINEE
ACCOUNTANT / ACCOUNTING STAFF
OJT AND PRACTICUMERS

Interested applicants may submit their resume with 2 passport size pictures to:

MAIN
FBR Bldg, 317 Katipunan Ave Loyola Heights, Quezon City
GREENHILLS
2/F Providence Bldg. 55 Annapolis St. Greenhills
SM MEGAMALL
5/F Bldg B Mandaluyong (in front of Megatrade Hall 1)
ROBINSONS GALLERIA
Park Ave (lower Ground) Near Robinsons admin office
DAGUPAN
De Venecia Road, Lucao District Dagupan City

R u ready
for higher ground?

Advertising · Graphics · Public Relations

Art Directors
Senior Designers/
Visualizers
Senior Copywriters
PR Consultant
Senior Account Executives

minimum 3 years relevant working experience
college graduate from top universities
25 to 35 years old
with passion for excellence

Send your resume with recent 2x2 photo to:
W1203 B Philippine Stock Exchange Center,
Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605

Interviews are strictly by appointment only

FREELANCERS are welcome to join our pool of talents.

RECEPTIONIST - Graduate of any course, with pleasing personality, must possess excellent communication and customer service skills, computer literate, female 21 yrs. old to 35 yrs. old, willing to work in Makati.

ACCOUNTING CLERK - Accounting Graduate, willing to work long hours, computer literate, female or male 21 yrs. old to 30 yrs. old, willing to work in Parañaque.

JANITORIAL/MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR - With experience in janitorial/ maintenance, willing to work in Manila and San Pedro, Laguna.

PORTER - At least College level, 5'6" in height, male 18 yrs. old to 35 yrs. old, willing to work in Quezon City.

MESSENGER - At least College level, knowledgeable in government duces. SSS, Pag-ibig, Philhealth and others, Male 21 yrs. old to 35 yrs. old, willing to work in San Pedro, Laguna.

Interested applicants may submit personally their credential at
DIMENSIONAL SERVICE CORPORATION
161 AGUIRRE AVE., BF HOMES, PARANAQUE CITY
Tel. #826-90-21 to 26 look for Ms. Nora Dumpit
or Ms. Inah Gerona

L.I.B.Y. INTERNATIONAL SALES, INC.
(a food chain company)

URGENTLY NEEDED!

HR Officer & HR Assistant
Accounting Clerk
Maintenance/Electrician

Qualifications:
Female/Male, 22-40 years old, with 2-3 relative working experience.
Interested applicants are encouraged to apply in person with detailed resumé, TOR & 2x2 picture at:

447 Bulalakaw St. Plainview Subdivision
Mandaluyong City
Tel. No. 535-5780 • 532-0578

A dynamic & fast growing construction company is looking for professionals who are willing to join & grow with the company. The qualifications are as follows:

Sanitary Engineers
Electrical Engineers

- 28-35 years of age
- Min. of 5 years in med. & high rise construction
- Honest, responsible & can work with minimum supervision

Interested applicants must personally submit resumé at:

IZUMO CONTRACTORS, INC.
22/F Galleria Corp. Center
EDSA cor. Ortigas, Q.C.

Golf & Marina
Holiday Resort

We seek suitable candidate for

- **Front Office Assistant**
- **Housekeeping Assistant**
- **Waiter/Waitress**

Min 5 yrs experience in hotel industry with similar capacity & possess qualify diploma or equivalent. Able to work independently with good personality & communication skill.

Interest candidates may email with full resumé in ms doc format before March 18, 2006 to: jamesloh@streamyx.com. For inquiry please call: 0919-2001690

QC OFFICE NEEDS
BOOKKEEPER
Pls call: 7218125
0218; 7262411
Look for Hazel

Accounting Clerk
Female, 20 words per minute,
graduate, single, Computer literate
Apply at 437-D A. Juan St.,
San Juan or call 725-1114

TRI EDGE
RESOURCES GLP INC.

WE ARE HIRING!

CALL CENTER REPS.

- **> High Compensation**
- **> 30% Night Differential**
- **> Meal & Transpo Allowance**
- **> Comprehensive Medical Benefits**

Qualifications:

- Must at least be in 3rd year College
- Excellent communication Skills
- Basic Computer Skills
- Background in Sales, Tech Support, & Customer Service is a plus.
- Willing to work in:

Cainta , Pasay, Novaliches, Dumaguete

Please visit our office:
501 The Raffles Corporate Center Emerald Ave,
Ortigas Center Pasig City.
Call: 914.1312 to 14

Send your Resumes to:
Manila: **apply@tri-edge.net**
Dumaguete: **recruit@tri-edge.net**

COME ABOARD.

BCD•PINPOINT an out-of-this-world
Customer Relationship Management company
is looking for:

Senior Account Manager
- Wants to build lasting brands with clients
- Loves the thrill of a challenge
- Is passionate about results
- Has at least 2 years experience in accounts/project management

Database Assistant
- Has experience in database system analysis, development and implementation
- Is logical and analytical, able to interpret data, and has advanced knowledge in spreadsheet application

If you think you have these specifications then you could be the subject we are looking for.

Application deadline: March 15, 2006
Send your resume and cover letter to
apply@bcdpinpoint.com
Log-on to www.bcdpinpoint.com to learn more.

Apply now and we'll take you to our leaders.

BCD•PINPOINT

ATTENTION: NURSES
NCLEX / CGFNS PASSERS OR CGFNS ELIGIBLE

Fulfill your dream to be gainfully employed, work in your chosen profession, be an immigrant and live the "American Dream"

UNITED STAFFING REGISTRY, POEA Reg No 100822

EMPLOYER FROM NEW YORK, U.S.A. WILL BE IN THE PHILIPPINES TO CONDUCT INTERVIEWS AND HIRE ON THE SPOT.

EMPLOYER: UNITED STAFFING REGISTRY, INC. d b a UNITED HOME CARE has deployed thousands of satisfied healthcare professionals to various prestigious hospitals, nursing homes, medical clinics, private homes and health care facilities in New York and New Jersey since 1988

DATE : MARCH 18 & 19, 2006 (SAT. & SUN.)
TIME: 10:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.
PLACE: INT'L. STAFFING REGISTRY OFFICE
G/F Catalina Bldg., 9 New York St. corner
E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Cubao, Quezon City

TO REGISTER, CONTACT US AT:
INTERNATIONAL STAFFING REGISTRY, INC.
☎ (02) 723-8646 Mobile:0915-202 8307
E-Mail: intl.staff@gmail.com
URL: http//internationaljobscenter.com
POEA-051-LB091905-PL

PROGRAMMERS / I.T. PROFESSIONALS

The prestigious **Career Up Co., Ltd.** has openings in **JAPAN** for **Experienced Programmers** who are proficient in JAVA or C++ or C# or Visual Basic or .NET or Web Development/Design or Server-side programming or Macromedia Flash or Client-Server programming and other technologies. Programming/ I.T. Certification or License is an advantage. Japanese proficiency is a plus. Send your Résumé by e-mail or apply at our website.

FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY, NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED

HIRING VAN SALESMEN
QC/Taguig Area. Sales Experience preferred. Send Bio-data to UG 6 Allaro Place, 146 Leviste St., Salcedo Village, Makati c/o Arnold or call/text Bobby (0918) 8496233

---

visit us at
www.jobmarketonline.com

POWERSPEAK'S PERSONAL AWARENESS AND LEADERSHIP SEMINAR.

Shown are the graduates and staff of Batch 8 of PowerSpeak's Personal Awareness and Leadership seminar (PALs) held last Jan. 20-22, 2006. The graduates attest that the three-day seminar was highly experiential and insightful, providing them with an enlightening fresh perspective towards life. PALs is based on the fundamental principle that each individual possesses unlimited, untapped potential and unlocking these allows a person to achieve greater results and abundance. Also in photo is Joey P. Reyes, in the middle (wearing a suit), facilitator and president of PowerSpeak, Inc. PALs is held monthly and Batch 10 in Manila is slated on March 17 to 19 and the first batch in Cebu on April 7 to 9. Interested parties may inquire at 8405958, 8405960 or 0917-5555639 or email them at powerspeak@gmail.com.

International Accounting Standards workshop set

IS YOUR COMPANY OR BUSINESS updated? The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the Board of Accountancy (BOA), the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas BSP) have approved the adoption of new and revised accounting standards.

The new Standards are effective for annual financial reporting periods beginning Jan. 1, 2005 and for interim or quarterly reports beginning Jan. 1, 2006.

Prepare your company and your business. Don't miss this very important seminar slated on March 23 and 24, 1- 5 p.m. at Holiday Inn Galleria, Ortigas.

The workshop will have as its resource lecturer Ms. Cecile Catahan, Consultant, Trainer and Certified Public Accountant.

This seminar is sponsored by Porter and Miles, Inc., a premier training company on business, management marketing, sales and human resource development, with office address at Suite 2502-C Tektite Tower East Ortigas Center.

Call Mercy at 638-7719 / 20 for more information / reservation. Limited seats only.

How to survive your work stressors

From page 10★★★

crew all work with clocks ticking like time bombs.

Pilots, molecular biologists, surgeons, telephone linemen, snipers, computer technicians, miners and scuba diving instructors work with great precision and cannot afford even the slightest error. Many jobs have grave life and death consequences, and this fact makes them stressful by nature. CEOs, managers and supervisors are on this list, too.

People as stressors

Let's face it: there are stressful people all around us! Every workplace will usually have the obnoxious, the envious, the braggart, the self-righteous, the lazy, the complainer, the gossip. The list is endless. The boss, of course, is often unfairly seen as the automatic stress icon.

Personality-driven stressors

Some people just seem to be more stressed out than others. Perhaps it is because some people actually enjoy being stressed, whether or not they admit it. Called stress junkies, these workers feel incomplete when the going is smooth. They miss the jagged edges, bumps and near-hits. There are also some, with masochistic tendencies perhaps, who have to play the perpetually harassed, demanding pity or praise for their hard work.

Nuisance stressors

Some stressors are simply unnecessary. Worrying about traffic when one left the house later than usual, losing sleep over a month-old assignment that is due tomorrow, or getting irritated about an officemate's bad moods create stress that one can live without. One can prepare for predictable traffic and deadlines. Another person's moods are beyond our control so why be perpetually surprised?

Overcoming stress is a decision, a choice one make's for the sake of a peaceful existence at work. A stressor is a stressor because one allows it to be so. Simply put, one can control all kinds of stresses because he or she can choose not to be stressed by them.

Attitude is the all-important factor. Those who triumph over stress are those who have decided that they will not let external factors wield their unwelcome power over them. Overcoming stress is a rational process, a willful act. One must think through stress rather than feel through it.

What to do

Three simple steps: identify, rationalize and decide. List down all the things that stress you, big and small. Then analyze each item. Why is this item a stressor? Is it within your control? What can you do about it?

It also helps to identify the consequences that each stressor brings to you. If the jeepney driver who cuts you in traffic goes away whistling a tune while you are still cursing right through lunch, shouldn't you be kinder to yourself? If your secretary still does not take a telephone message correctly, shouldn't you prefer one more round of training to an emotional outburst?

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Rationalizing helps you see what you can or cannot do about a particular stressor. If it is outside your control, then the only thing you can control is how you view it. Chances are, you can eliminate it from your list.

It's entirely up to you.

Be kind to yourself

That attitude is a key determinant of stress control may seem impractical or downright absurd. It is difficult—extremely—sometimes. But if you decide not to be stressed about something, then it isn't a stressor anymore!

Wouldn't you rather be humming through your inbox and chatting with your boss as you would your best friend? Wouldn't you rather go home and enjoy your children's school stories rather than take out your bad day on them? Shouldn't you look forward to lunch hour as the time to relax with your officemates rather than use it to escape from them?

You can beat stress in a much more efficient, lasting, and cheaper way than a gym workout, massage, or vacation. Try adopting a no-stress attitude until it becomes a habit, and eventually a lifestyle and a way of life. Try it!

(Ms Mante is a human resources and organization development practitioner, published writer, and career consultant with leading transitions management firm, DBM. She is also with the Interspacers Writers Group of the Institute for Studies in Asian Church and Culture. Send feedback to lcmante@yahoo.com.*)*

Telco engineers turn relief workers at …

From page 10★★★

and their three children had died. The family had relocated to Guinsaugon to help Mina's parents only a week earlier.

When members of media started arriving at the scene, more calling facilities had to be set up. In addition, the journalists needed Internet access to file reports and send photos to their offices. The nearest town with Internet access was Sogod, about an hour away by car.

As part of the PLDT group, Smart has access to several wireless solutions. The fastest to deploy was PLDT WeRoam, which needed only a card phone to be plugged into a notebook PC to gain mobile Internet connectivity.

By Saturday afternoon, the Libreng Tawag Center looked like a press center, with local and foreign journalists taking turns filing reports, using three laptops with Internet access.

Round-the-clock service

To further speed up connectivity, engineers worked round-the-clock to install a wireless broadband base station in St. Bernard. By Sunday afternoon, the call station at the town had Internet access using Smart WiFi, with broadband connection speeds that made it easier for media men to download photos and e-mail reports.

Meanwhile, in the neighboring town of Liloan, Smart's employee volunteers also responded to a request to put up a free-calls facility. This serves the families evacuated to the Liloan Central School in anticipation of more landslides, triggered by continuous rains.

Another one was set up at the Cristo Rey National High School in St. Bernard. More free-call stations will be opened in other evacuation centers in St. Bernard and neighboring towns, to be manned by Red Cross volunteers.

For the three Smart engineers, what was supposed to be a day of technical troubleshooting turned into a weeklong relief operation. "It was time for Side B," quipped Echavia, referring to the shirts on their backs which they later on wore inside out in lieu of a change of clothes.

Ironically the men who helped townsfolk contact their families were themselves able to do the same only several days later. "My children had been sending text messages, urging me to come home," said Parrilla of his three daughters in Ormoc. It was one of those rare occasions when they contacted him for some reason other than to ask for their allowance, he laughed.

The first chance he got, Echavia—whose family is in Bohol—called his wife to assure her that he was okay and that he couldn't call earlier because he and the other engineers made their cell phones available to the public.

Quirong, who has been with Smart the longest, almost 13 years, said more than ever before, he felt proud to be an employee of the wireless company. "It was exhausting but rewarding. Even in our line of work, we are able to help people," he said.

"And we did not make a distinction between our subscribers and those of other networks," Parrilla added. "We allowed long-distance and overseas calls, we put up Internet facilities simply because these were needed."

Their experience earned for them the monicker "3G," for three *guapo* (handsome), or three *gurang* (old). Perhaps the best word would be gallant.

LEADING
HIGH
PERFORMANCE
TEAMS

MEDIA PARTNERS
INQUIRER
bworldonline.com
BusinessWorld
Go way
Also Brought to you by:
RED FOX
AsianTech
Unilever
UBX
U-BIX CORPORATION
APCEI
The Economist
Sun Life Financial
COMPUTERWORLD
ENTERPRISE
PC WORLD
voices.
Dinsmor Magnets
Spring
TEAMSPARROWINC.
W B PHILIPPINES, INC
MICRODATA
nsclub.net

THE HARRY POUND COMPANY

THE COACHING AND MENTORING ADVANTAGE
Turn your Managers and Supervisors into LEADERS
and achieve long-term phenomenal Team Results.
April 10, 2006 • Monday.
Westin Philippine Plaza • 8:00 am to 5:30 pm
ARE YOU IN OR OUT?

RATES PER SEAT:		
	Super Value Rate:	P3,449+VAT Starting today; strictly until February 25, 2006 only
	Early Bird Rate:	P3,949+VAT Starting February 26, 2006; strictly until March 9, 2006 only
	Regular rate:	P4,449+VAT Starting March 10, 2006

For a smoother and more balanced impact,
send your core management and supervisory team and Enjoy BIG Savings!

Required No. of Participants	Discounted Rate/seat	Actual Savings	Promo Duration
10	P3,199+VAT	P2,500	Until February 25, 2006
20	P2,999+VAT	P8,100	Until February 25, 2006

Reserve your seats NOW!
Look for HARRY'S ANGELS
Tel.: 404-2753, 523-1718, 526-1909
Cell No.: 0917-327-7271
E-mail: GetSuccessNow@HarryPound.com
Website: www.HarryPound.com

Supervisory Leadership Development

March 21, 2006, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Holiday Inn Galleria

The productive or anemic performance of your people and your business depends largely on your supervisors. If they can effectively guide, control and motivate the people, the desired result will be achieved. Unfortunately, supervision is anything but easy. In fact, what often happens is that when a productive worker is promoted to a supervisory position, the company loses an effective worker and gains a poor supervisor. This is known as the Peter Principle and this is largely attributable to lack of fundamental skills and attitude training in supervision. Lack of training is a sure-fire formula for failure. This powerful program is designed to equip and empower the Supervisors by providing them the fundamental and advanced concepts and tools to professionalize their management style and enable them to effectively lead their team.

LEARNING SEED

Session I : Why Some Supervisors Fail
Session II : Becoming a Supervisor
Session III : Some Nuts And Bolts of Supervison
Session IV : Planning and Goal Setting
Session V : Leading Your People
Session VI : How to Motivate for Result

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- New or recently promoted supervisors with less than three years of formal supervisory experience
- Experienced supervisors or managers reentering the job market and looking to update their resumes
- Informal leaders who have an unofficial supervisory role of leading teams of coworkers or volunteers
- Individuals whose career plans include becoming a supervisor in the near future

SEMINAR INVESTMENT
>>> EARLY BIRD RATE <<<
P 1, 345 + vat until March 13
>>>REGULAR RATE<<<
P 1,695+ vat starting March 14
(complete with snacks, handouts and certificates)

CALL US NOW FOR INQUIRIES/RESERVATIONS
PORTER & MILES Look for Mercy 638-7719/20
Fax Number 637-6890 Email:pmi@alfox.net Website:www.pmi.com.ph

PMAP seminars set for the month of March

THE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT Association of the Philippines is sponsoring a seminar on Recruitment and Placement of Workers scheduled on March 17, 2006.

The program aims to orient participants with the requirements of the Labor Code in the conduct of Recruitment and Placement. At the end of the session, it is expected that the participants would be better equipped to perform recruitment and placement as a business function. Registration fee is P3,400 for PMAP Members and P4,900 for Non PMAP Members.

A two-day workshop on An Overview of Labor and Employment Laws will be held on March 20-21, 2006. Registration fee is P4,800 for PMAP Members and P6,300 for Non PMAP Members.

This seminar presents the basic laws and rules governing employment and contracting in the Philippine setting as well as the minimum labor standards required of employers, the legal consequences of union organization, the requirements for a valid dismissal, and the labor law enforcement machinery of the Government.

The program entitled Principles and Techniques in Instructional Design is scheduled on March 21-22, 2006. Registration fee is P5,600 for PMAP Members and P7,100 for Non PMAP Center. It aims the participants to be able to identify the most appropriate approach(es) and methods to achieve their training objectives. They will also be able to design a training program, utilizing effective learning tools and activities.

All programs will be held at PMAP Center in Mandaluyong City. For reservations, please contact

The Human Resource Management Development Center at telephone numbers 726-1581; 726-1588 or 726-1532; email address: mira.jakosalem@pmap.org.ph or you may visit the website: www.pmap.org.

EXCITING PRODUCTION TEAM NOW HIRING
SEGMENT PRODUCER/PRODUCTION DESIGNER
Background in cooking, food styling, decor, a bargain hunter, Divisoria savvy!
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
Fluent in English, computer literate, efficient, with friendly disposition.
COORDINATING PRODUCER
Reliable, personable, organized, background in event planning, production or advertising.
GRAPHIC ARTIST/DESIGNER
Experience in publishing coffee table books, home art magazines, research ability
Work on project basis Knowledge of web design is plus
DRIVER/MESSENGER
Experience with large vehicles, work flexible hours, with knowledge of Quezon City, Pasig, Manila (Divisoria), Makati, Alabang areas
Please send resumé to gina_dejoras@yahoo.com or fax 887-7708

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS BUT ONCE.
JOB Market
Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Text us your feedback: Inquirer paw name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph.

Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Betrayed by protégé!

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR
Josie O. Santamaria

I READ with great interest your career advice to the high potential person (HPP) who complained that his assigned mentor refuses to see him. I commiserate with him if the mentor that the HR Director had assigned to him was not at all the good mentor described in your career advice. (Author's note: Please see Sunday Inquirer, People at Work, Job Market section, Feb. 19 and 26, 2006.)

I had been mentored myself during the early part of my career when I was also a high potential person. Were it not for my mentors, I would not have risen to the highest position in our company. I had always looked back with gratitude to and love for these mentors, and up to now, I pray for them since they are now dead.

Because of these mentors, I welcomed opportunities to mentor high potential people during my corporate career. I must have mentored about a dozen young men and women, both formally and informally. Except for three of them, the rest had shown their gratitude and given me credit for having contributed to their career growth. I'm glad that your article described the psychic and spiritual benefits of mentoring for these were true of my own experience as a mentor.

One of the three had the attitude and air of "I did it myself with no thanks to you." He eventually replaced me when I was eased out of my position due to corporate politics. I was given an attractive separation package, a "golden parachute," to leave the company which I had nurtured for 18 years and made profitable. It broke my heart; I was crushed and devastated. How painful it is to be kicked out of the company you have come to love as your own family, and be made to feel no longer needed. This was seven years ago. Up to now, in spite of my close relationship with God, the source of my strength and center of my life, I am still broken in spirit; my wounds have not yet healed when I think of the betrayal of this HPP.

I'm now 63 years old, no longer on LOI ("living on interest") status. In fact, my wife and I are now living on our limited savings and I don't know how we can survive.

We have four children who have families of their own and struggling to send their own children to school. They always complain of their inability to make both ends meet. I had given each one a part of my separation package; they think I still have a big amount invested.

Do you think I can go back to some of the people whom I had mentored and ask if they can give me consulting work? I'm hesitant to do this because it may not be the right thing to do. Also, I'm too proud and afraid that I'll be rejected.

Mr. Dejected Retiree

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

I can imagine and feel how devastated you were when you were pressured to retire and saw the person you had mentored take over your position. Worse, this person did not at all acknowledge whatever contribution you made to his professional growth, let alone to his career advancement.

It is natural for you to feel the way you do; however, if you allow these feelings to dominate your life, you will not be able to move forward. The good that came out of your forced retirement was that it had given you a big amount of money and you were able to share some amount with your adult children. As important, it had brought you to God and led you to develop a close personal relationship with Him.

Acknowledge feelings

Do not suppress and deny your negative feelings. Rather, acknowledge them. Your feelings of anger, bitterness, betrayal, etc. are all natural and normal. Offer them to God and pray for His healing and the grace of wholeness which come from forgiving those who you consider to be behind your exit. Self-pity makes you rooted to the past. Instead, feel good about yourself, be grateful for the many blessings God has given you and get on with your life.

If God has closed the door to corporate life, surely He is opening wide windows of opportunities for you if you only stop looking down and looking back. Instead, look up and recognize the opportunities He may be sending you.

Take advantage of the present to make an inventory of who you are now and what you have become, what skills, talents and wisdom you have acquired, what you now possess because of your work and career success, what career options are open for you, and who you know who can be members of your network. If you take time to write down the above, you will feel good and realize you are so blessed. This will contribute to your acceptance and eventual healing, and give you the confidence you need to look to the future with hope.

(To be continued)

(Ms Santamaria is president of Career Systems, Inc., a professional psychologist and counselor, and a mentor and executive coach. She has a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of the Philippines. Visit www.careersystems.com.ph *for more information.)*

Being special

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

FOR SOMEONE WHO IS BURDENED WITH WORK AND ALL THE difficulties that go along with it, the feeling of being someone special to the boss, or to other significant coworkers could lighten the load, and perhaps even provide an inspiration to work harder.

The need to be recognized is one of the basic needs of everyone; so, most workers compete consciously or unconsciously for recognition and appreciation. In order to get special regard from the superiors, some would sacrifice their personal time, perhaps even readily work overtime without pay on some pet projects of the boss which are not strictly related to their assigned tasks. There are also others who strive to get the favorable attention of the majority of their coworkers. Being affirmed by others generates a corresponding and higher self-esteem in some persons, rendering them more forcefully driven to work and strongly motivated to perform better.

This culture and environment where the person and dignity of the worker are recognized and valued by everyone is the most preferred setting of a workplace. But the reality in most workplaces is different; there is too stiff a competition where everyone seems too ready to destroy and "kill" the other, or at the very least pull down or discredit those who are at the top or those progressing in good deeds.

Yet, these harsh realities could change if everyone would see the beauty of mutual affirmation and focus more on the goodness rather than the undesirable traits of each individual and believe that each one, in his or her own way, is indeed special in the eyes of God. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net)

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

Gospel: Mark 2-10

After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves.

Feeling left out

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

A READER ONCE WROTE ME TO VENTILATE ON THE STATE OF workplace. He was feeling paranoid for being left out of interesting projects. Today's Gospel (where Jesus picks two disciples to go up the mountain with Him) reminds me of that reader.

At one time or the other in your working life, you must have felt left out. For example, when the boss launches an extraordinary project and creates a team for it. In spite of your talents or skills you're not in. Your first reaction to this would probably be resentment, then self-pity and envy. "Why has he not included me? Doesn't anybody want me? They gave a big budget for that pet project while our department can't even buy a new fax machine!"

It is very human to be reacting this way, but we must not allow ourselves to stew in that rut too long, otherwise we lose. Winners never forget that lights and shadows always go together—every trying situation hides a victory somewhere, and every triumphant situation has its downside as well. Being left out might look like a low point for you but you must remember that it's your attitude that makes or breaks you, and your attitude is within your control. When you find yourself in that groove, don't waste your time whining, use it to reinvent yourself. Don't cry "Foul!" as it will only make your boss thankful he's left you out; instead, upgrade and polish your skills on your own—first, it will improve your self-esteem, and second, it will increase your "saleability" as a worker. (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)

Telco engineers turn relief workers at Guinsaugon landslide

By Aimee L. Abaricia
Contributor

ENSURING THE SMOOTH traffic of phone calls is all in a day's work for Jun Parrilla, an engineer in a mobile phone company. But never did he realize the impact one phone call could make until Feb. 17, when a landslide buried an entire barangay in Southern Leyte.

He and two other engineers at Smart Communications, Inc. had set up and manned a free-calls station at the disaster site—and witnessed anguish, terror, desperation up close.

Caller after caller, the message was the same—about a loved one dead or missing. Some calls were made by survivors, who assured their families that they were safe, others sought help.

"It was very hard, especially on the first day because most of the calls were made by the survivors, who were sleeping at the St. Bernard municipal hall where we had set up the Libreng Tawag station. The emotions were very raw, and they would immediately start crying when they contacted the other party," Parrilla said.

Shocking news

The morning of that tragic day, he, Lolong Echavia and Lito Quirong, his fellow-engineers in Smart's Network Services Division, had set out from their base in Maasin, Southern Leyte, to do some troubleshooting at a cell site in Hinunangan town. Since it had been raining heavily the past few days, Parrilla wanted to make sure that landslides along the Maharlika highway near Mahaplag town had not rendered the road impassable.

A call to Roderick Caindoy, the caretaker at the cell site in St. Bernard, revealed the shocking news instead. Barangay Guinsaugon had been wiped out and an initial count had already placed the missing at over 1,500.

SMART engineers at Libreng Tawag station, which became a virtual press center.

The three engineers thus were among the first on the scene.

That same evening, the engineers activated the Smart Libreng Tawag station at the St. Bernard Municipal Hall. They made their own cell phones available to more than a hundred people, mostly victims' kin.

"I was deeply moved," Quirong recounted. "But I had to hold back the tears... A TV cameraman was around, and I didn't want my relatives to see me crying." He kept thinking about his own family and what he would do if something like this happened to them.

Echavia said it was painful to watch the survivors, especially when they started crying. Like his colleagues, he often found himself holding back tears.

"One woman couldn't stop sobbing into the phone. I learned later, she had lost all her family and knew no one in the area. They had just moved to St. Bernard from Manila," he said.

The Smart station was also crowded with rescuers and volunteers as well as members of local government units and support groups that needed to relay information to provincial and national headquarters.

Call service

Using a satellite phone, recharged through a car battery, the engineers accommodated calls from rescuers from the Army, PNP Region 8, and volunteers from support groups. (The phone was literally mobile, as it was inside a vehicle.) Relatives of missing persons also flocked to the calling station, anxiously awaiting news.

The engineers also activated a 3G (third generation) radio base station in St. Bernard and Sogod. One survivor, Vicente Cabidayan, made a video call to his mother in Taytay, Rizal. At the sight of her face on the cell phone screen, he broke into sobs as he broke the painful news. His wife Mila

TELCO/P.9★★★

How to survive your work stressors

By Loree Cruz-Mante
Contributor

ANYONE WHO COMPLAINS about stress in the workplace must one day accept the futility of such a preoccupation. Stress at work is as real as any other item in one's job description. When one signs a work contract, one also gives his/her consent to the fine print of S-T-R-E-S-S imbedded as a hyperlink in every other line. Stress is simply part of the working life—indeed, of life itself.

Stress is natural

Does this mean, then, that we should all stop complaining and grudgingly accept the seemingly unacceptable? I definitely say "No!" There are countless individuals who seem to breeze through the stresses of everyday and consider it such a privilege to be at work! Let me share what some happy people at work have discovered.

Stress is often defined as "the body's way of responding to change." This simply means that stress was created to be a good thing. If the body were not allowed to use this built-in response mechanism, there would surely be adverse consequences.

Stress becomes a "bad" thing when we allow it to turn against itself. Stress becomes "stressful" when we allow it to put undue pressure on us, forcing us to cope with too much, too often, or too soon. The body is forced to overtax itself in responding to change, over and beyond its natural capacity. We then begin to bite more than we can chew. We begin to feel buried deeper and deeper into a hole we cannot get out of. We gasp for air. We choke. We have allowed stress to overpower us.

Organization as stressor

Here are some causes of stresses.

A clear work stressor is the type of organization people work in. The nature of the business often dictates the culture, norms, pace and relationships in the workplace. Organizations that deal with disaster relief, emergencies, money, media, health and the like have stresses inherent in the kind of work that they do. A person who decides to work in these organizations must accept the stresses as givens.

Nature of work

Another stressor is defined by the kind of work people do in an organization. Sales jobs are forever about targets and quotas. The medical profession is about saving lives, often demanding split-second decisions. Stock market traders, air traffic controllers, firemen, call center agents, assembly line workers, reporters, even fast food delivery

HOW/P.9★★★

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

INQUIRER COMICS Sunday

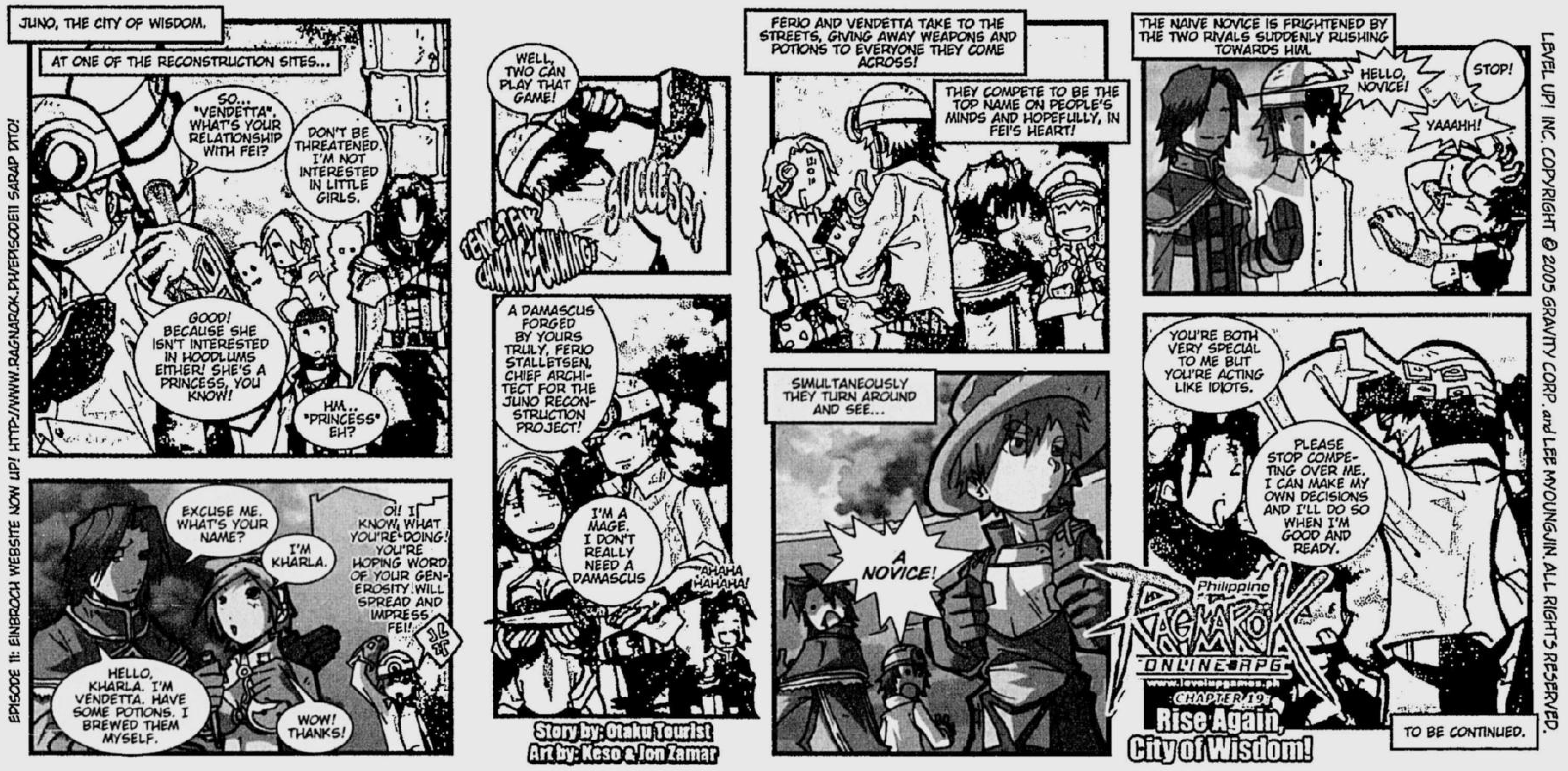
MARCH 12, 2006

e-mail feedback: arts@inquirer.com.ph

sms feedback: inquirer life name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart)

RAGNAROK

BY LEVEL UP GAMES

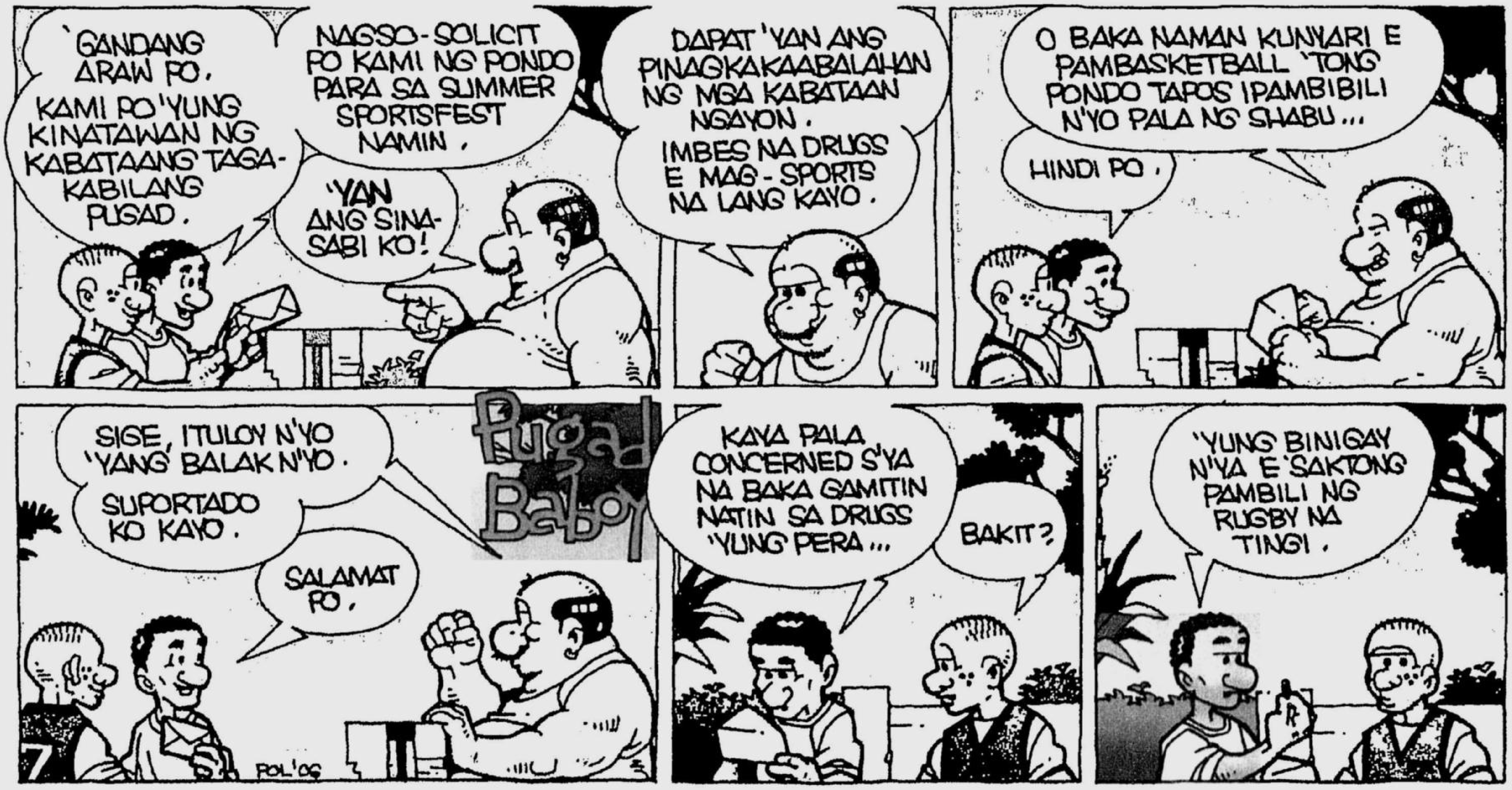

EPISODE 11: EINBROCH WEBSITE NOW UP! HTTP://WWW.RAGNAROK.PH/EPISODE11 SARAP DITO!
JUNO, THE CITY OF WISDOM.
AT ONE OF THE RECONSTRUCTION SITES...
SO... "VENDETTA". WHAT'S YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH FEI?
DON'T BE THREATENED. I'M NOT INTERESTED IN LITTLE GIRLS.
GOOD! BECAUSE SHE ISN'T INTERESTED IN HOODLUMS EITHER! SHE'S A PRINCESS, YOU KNOW!
HM... "PRINCESS" EH?
EXCUSE ME. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I'M KHARLA.
OI! I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING! YOU'RE HOPING WORD OF YOUR GENEROSITY WILL SPREAD AND IMPRESS FEI!
HELLO, KHARLA. I'M VENDETTA. HAVE SOME POTIONS. I BREWED THEM MYSELF.
WOW! THANKS!
WELL, TWO CAN PLAY THAT GAME!
SUCCESS!
TENK-TENK CHWING-CHWING!
A DAMASCUS FORGED BY YOURS TRULY, FERIO STALLETSEN, CHIEF ARCHITECT FOR THE JUNO RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT!
I'M A MAGE. I DON'T REALLY NEED A DAMASCUS
AHAHA HAHAHA!
FERIO AND VENDETTA TAKE TO THE STREETS, GIVING AWAY WEAPONS AND POTIONS TO EVERYONE THEY COME ACROSS!
THEY COMPETE TO BE THE TOP NAME ON PEOPLE'S MINDS AND HOPEFULLY, IN FEI'S HEART!
SIMULTANEOUSLY THEY TURN AROUND AND SEE...
A NOVICE!
THE NAIVE NOVICE IS FRIGHTENED BY THE TWO RIVALS SUDDENLY RUSHING TOWARDS HIM.
HELLO, NOVICE!
STOP!
YAAAHH!
YOU'RE BOTH VERY SPECIAL TO ME BUT YOU'RE ACTING LIKE IDIOTS.
PLEASE STOP COMPETING OVER ME. I CAN MAKE MY OWN DECISIONS AND I'LL DO SO WHEN I'M GOOD AND READY.
Philippine RAGNAROK ONLINE RPG
www.levelupgames.ph
CHAPTER 19:
Rise Again, City of Wisdom!
TO BE CONTINUED.

Story by: Otaku Tourist
Art by: Keso & Jon Zamar

LEVEL UP! INC. COPYRIGHT © 2005 GRAVITY CORP. and LEE MYOUNGJIN. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

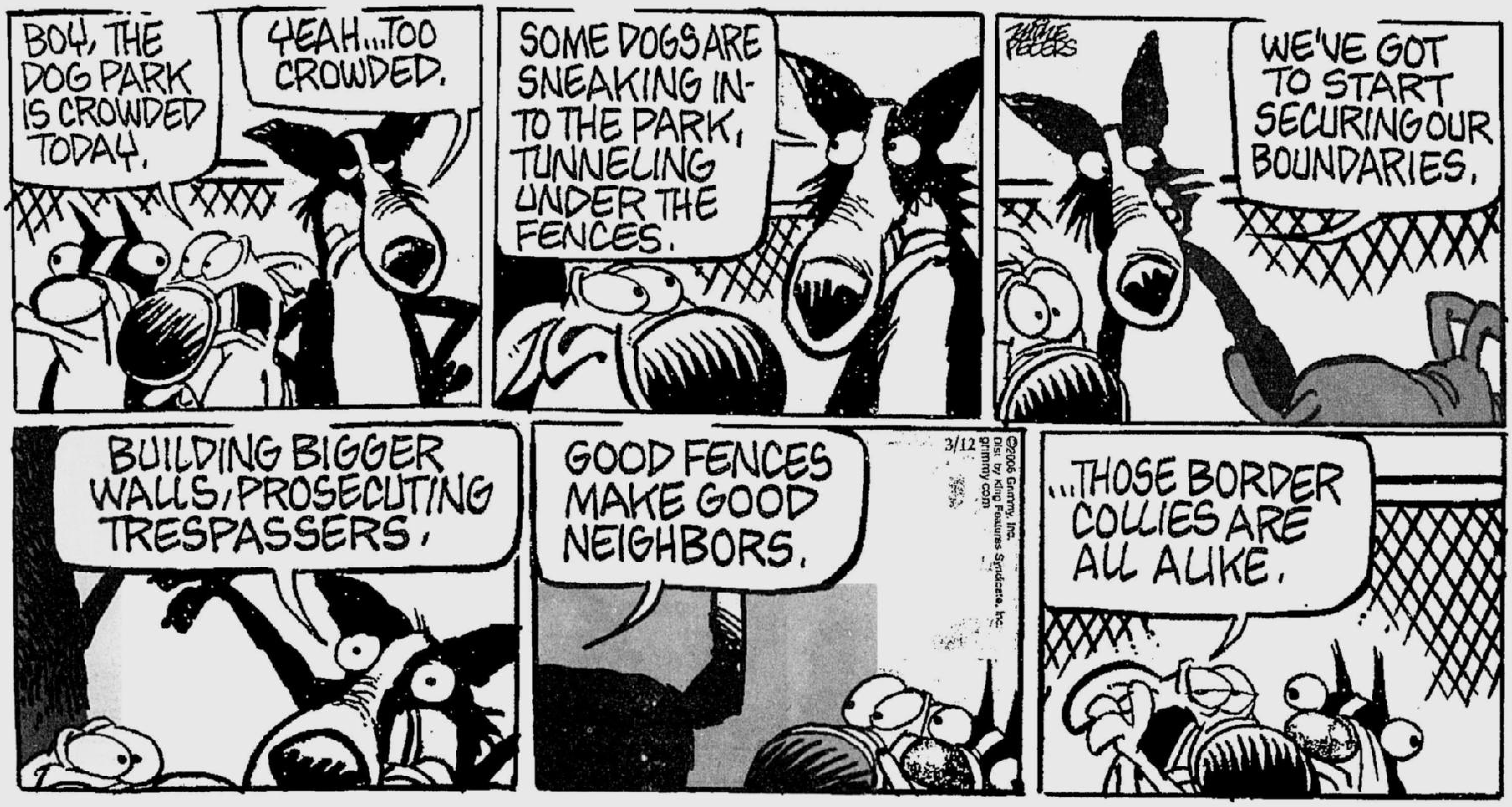
PUGAD BABOY

BY POL MEDINA JR.


`GANDANG ARAW PO. KAMI PO'YUNG KINATAWAN NG KABATAANG TAGA-KABILANG PUGAD.
NAGSO-SOLICIT PO KAMI NG PONDO PARA SA SUMMER SPORTSFEST NAMIN.
'YAN ANG SINASABI KO!
DAPAT 'YAN ANG PINAGKAKAABALAHAN NG MGA KABATAAN NGAYON. IMBES NA DRUGS E MAG-SPORTS NA LANG KAYO.
O BAKA NAMAN KUNYARI E PAMBASKETBALL `TONG PONDO TAPOS IPAMBIBILI N'YO PALA NG SHABU...
HINDI PO.
SIGE, ITULOY N'YO 'YANG BALAK N'YO. SUPORTADO KO KAYO.
SALAMAT PO.
Pugad Baboy
POL '06
KAYA PALA CONCERNED S'YA NA BAKA GAMITIN NATIN SA DRUGS 'YUNG PERA...
BAKIT?
'YUNG BINIGAY N'YA E `SAKTONG PAMBILI NG RUGBY NA TINGI.

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

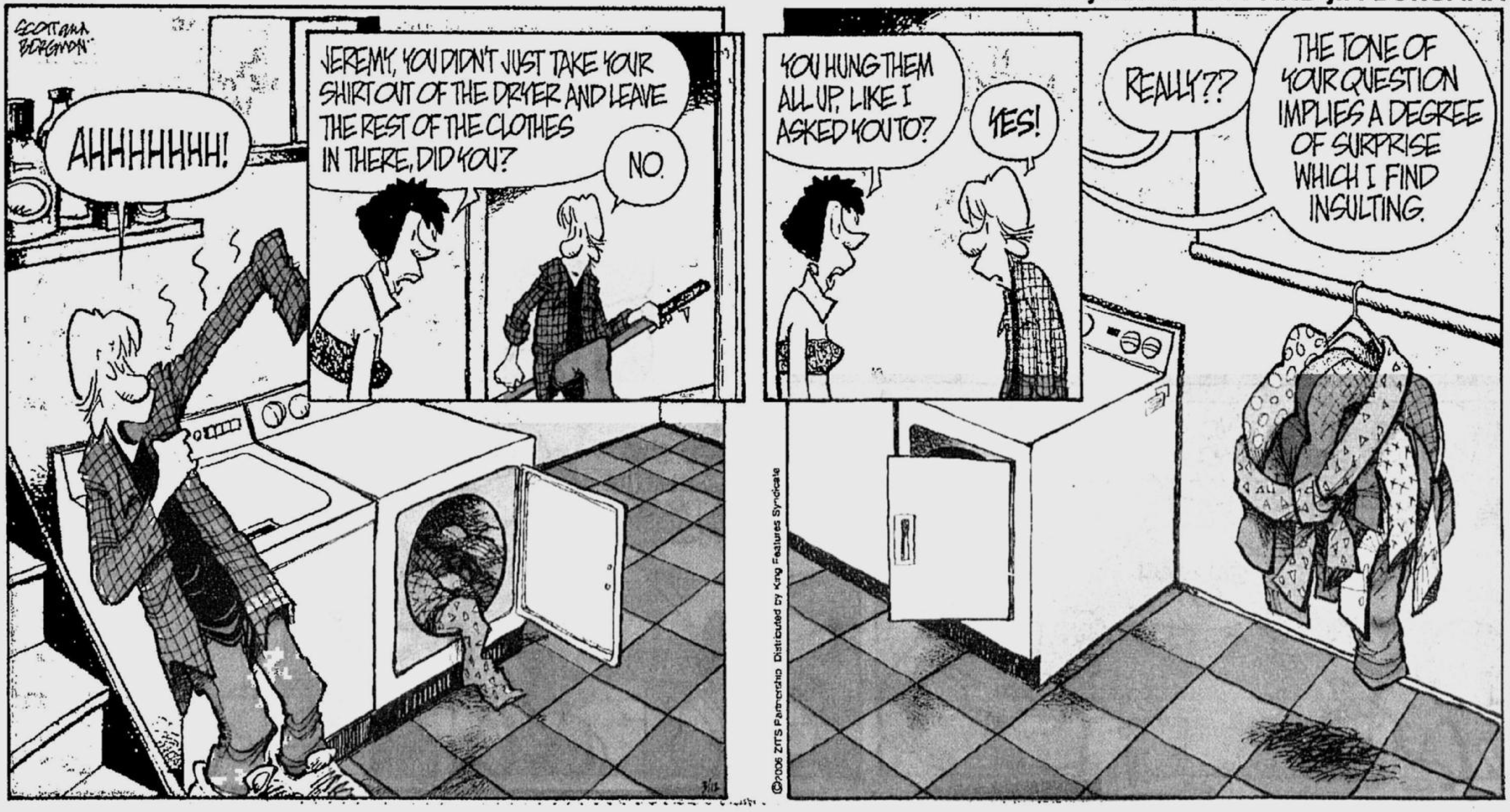
BY MIKE PETERS


BOY, THE DOG PARK IS CROWDED TODAY.
YEAH...TOO CROWDED.
SOME DOGS ARE SNEAKING INTO THE PARK, TUNNELING UNDER THE FENCES.
MIKE PETERS
WE'VE GOT TO START SECURING OUR BOUNDARIES.
BUILDING BIGGER WALLS, PROSECUTING TRESPASSERS.
GOOD FENCES MAKE GOOD NEIGHBORS.
3/12
...THOSE BORDER COLLIES ARE ALL ALIKE.

©2006 Grimmy, Inc. Dist by King Features Syndicate, Inc. grimmy.com

ZITS

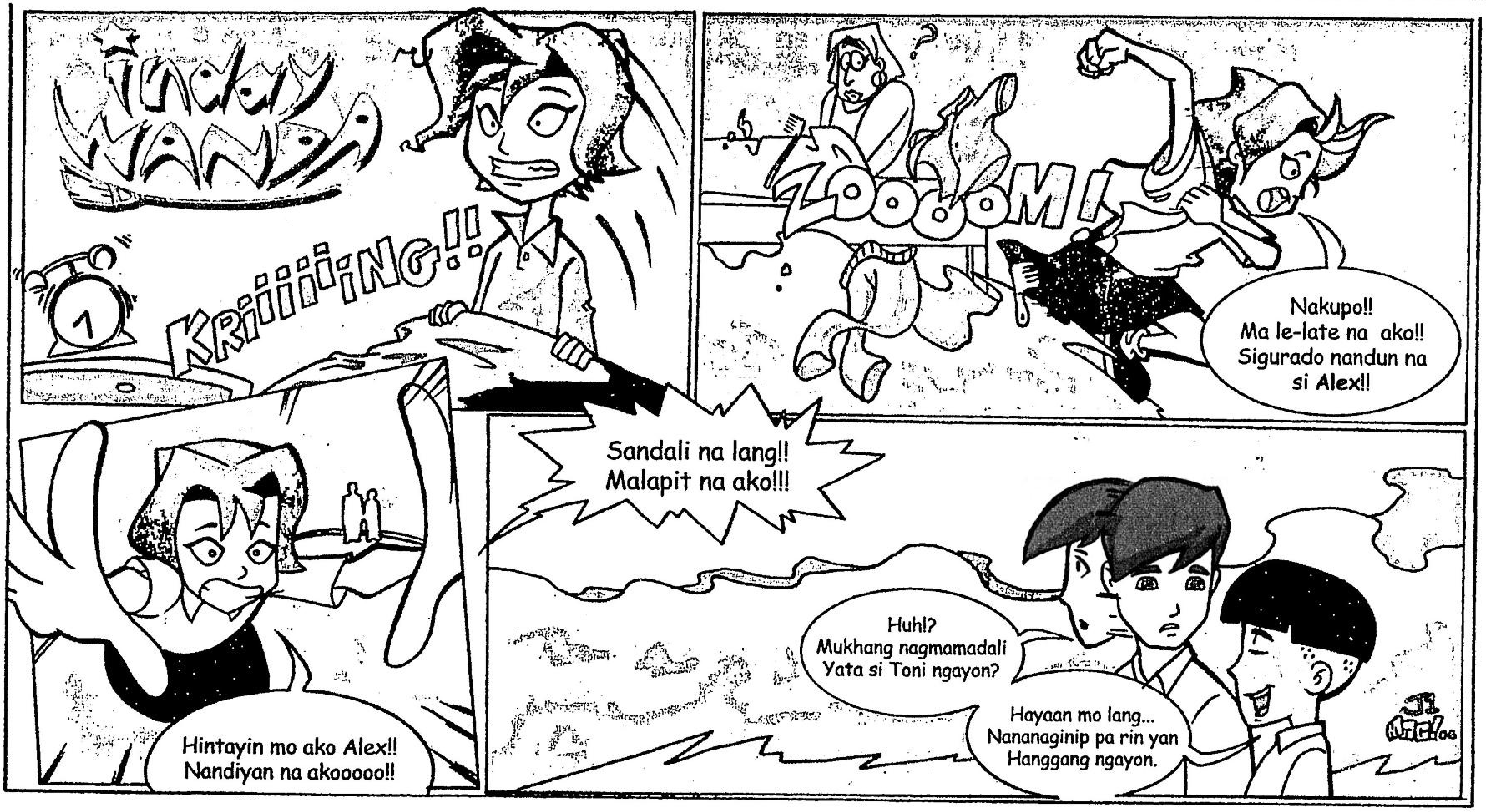
BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


SCOTT AND BORGMAN
AHHHHHHH!
JEREMY, YOU DIDN'T JUST TAKE YOUR SHIRT OUT OF THE DRYER AND LEAVE THE REST OF THE CLOTHES IN THERE, DID YOU?
NO.
YOU HUNG THEM ALL UP, LIKE I ASKED YOU TO?
YES!
REALLY??
THE TONE OF YOUR QUESTION IMPLIES A DEGREE OF SURPRISE WHICH I FIND INSULTING.

©2006 ZITS Partnership Distributed by King Features Syndicate

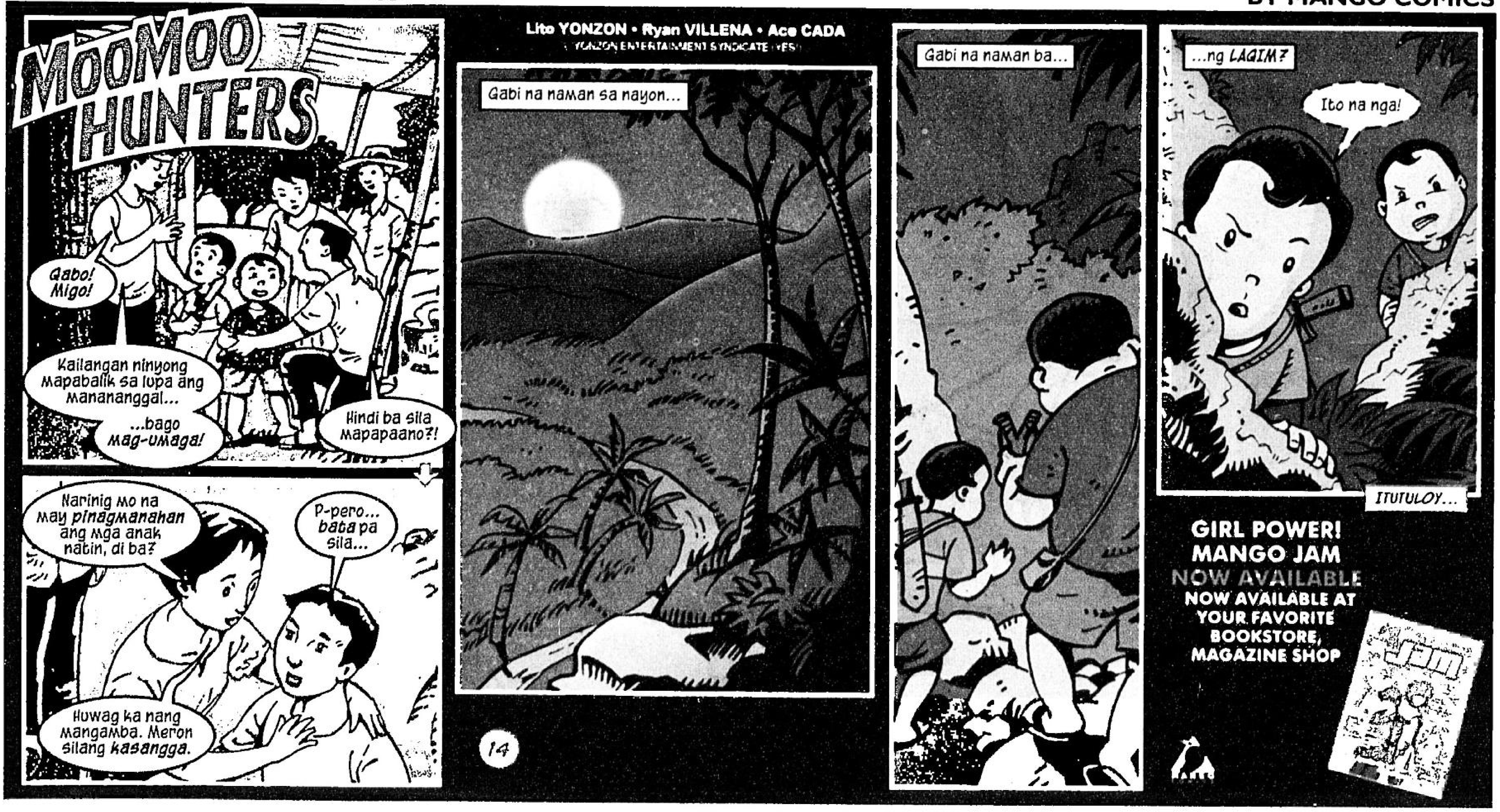
INDAY WANDA

BY BLOG CALIGUIA


Inday Wanda
KRiiiiiiNG!!
ZOOOOOM!
Nakupo!! Ma le-late na ako!! Sigurado nandun na si Alex!!
Hintayin mo ako Alex!! Nandiyan na akooooo!!
Sandali na lang!! Malapit na ako!!!
Huh!? Mukhang nagmamadali Yata si Toni ngayon?
Hayaan mo lang... Nananaginip pa rin yan Hanggang ngayon.
JI NICH 06

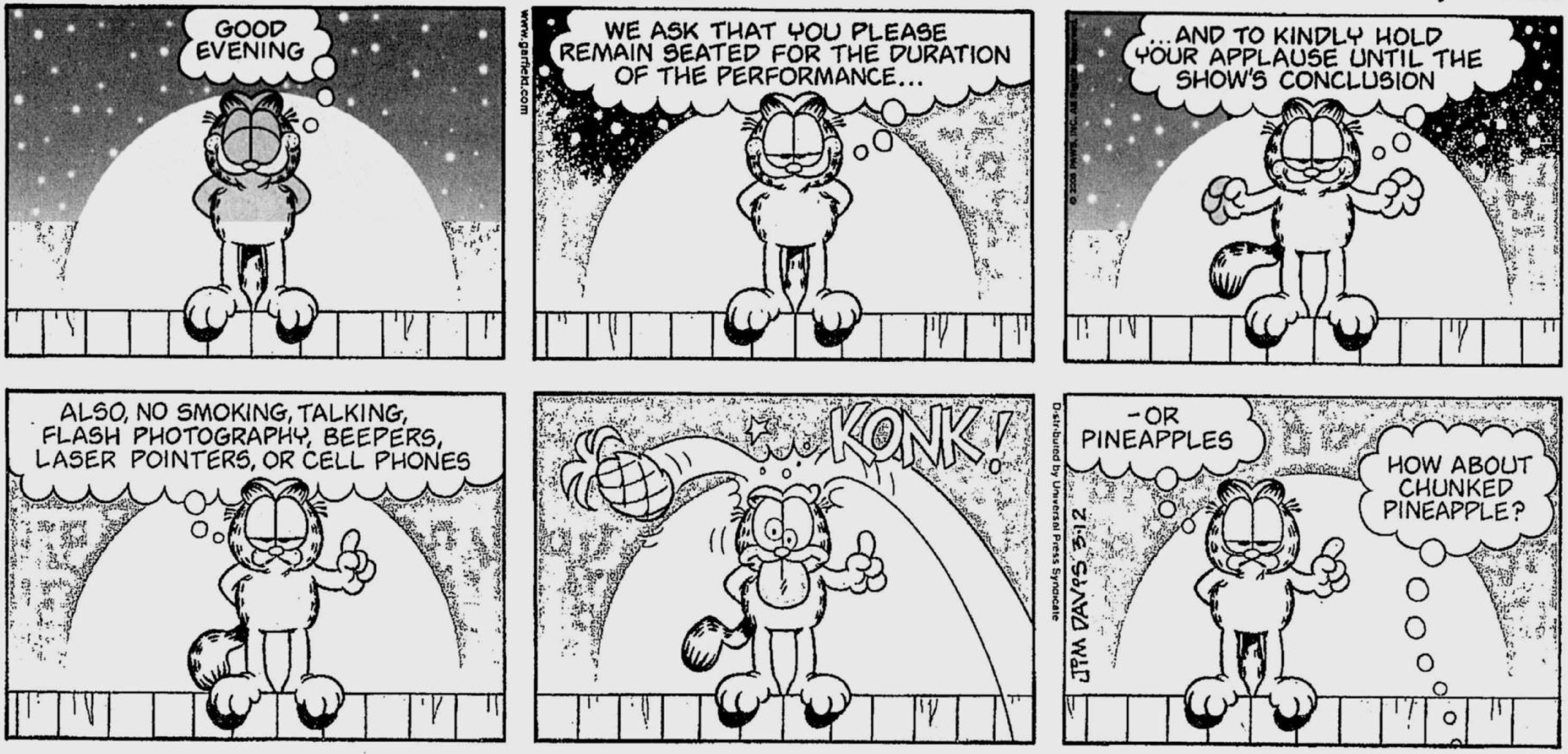
MOOMOO HUNTERS

BY MANGO COMICS


MooMoo HUNTERS
Lito YONZON • Ryan VILLENA • Ace CADA
YONZON ENTERTAINMENT SYNDICATE (YES)
Gabo! Migo!
Kailangan ninyong mapabalik sa lupa ang manananggal...
...bago mag-umaga!
Hindi ba sila mapapaano?!
Narinig mo na may pinagmanahan ang mga anak natin, di ba?
P-pero... bata pa sila...
Huwag ka nang mangamba. Meron silang kasangga.
Gabi na naman sa nayon...
Gabi na naman ba...
...ng LAGIM?
Ito na nga!
ITUTULOY...
14
GIRL POWER! MANGO JAM NOW AVAILABLE
NOW AVAILABLE AT YOUR FAVORITE BOOKSTORE, MAGAZINE SHOP
Jam

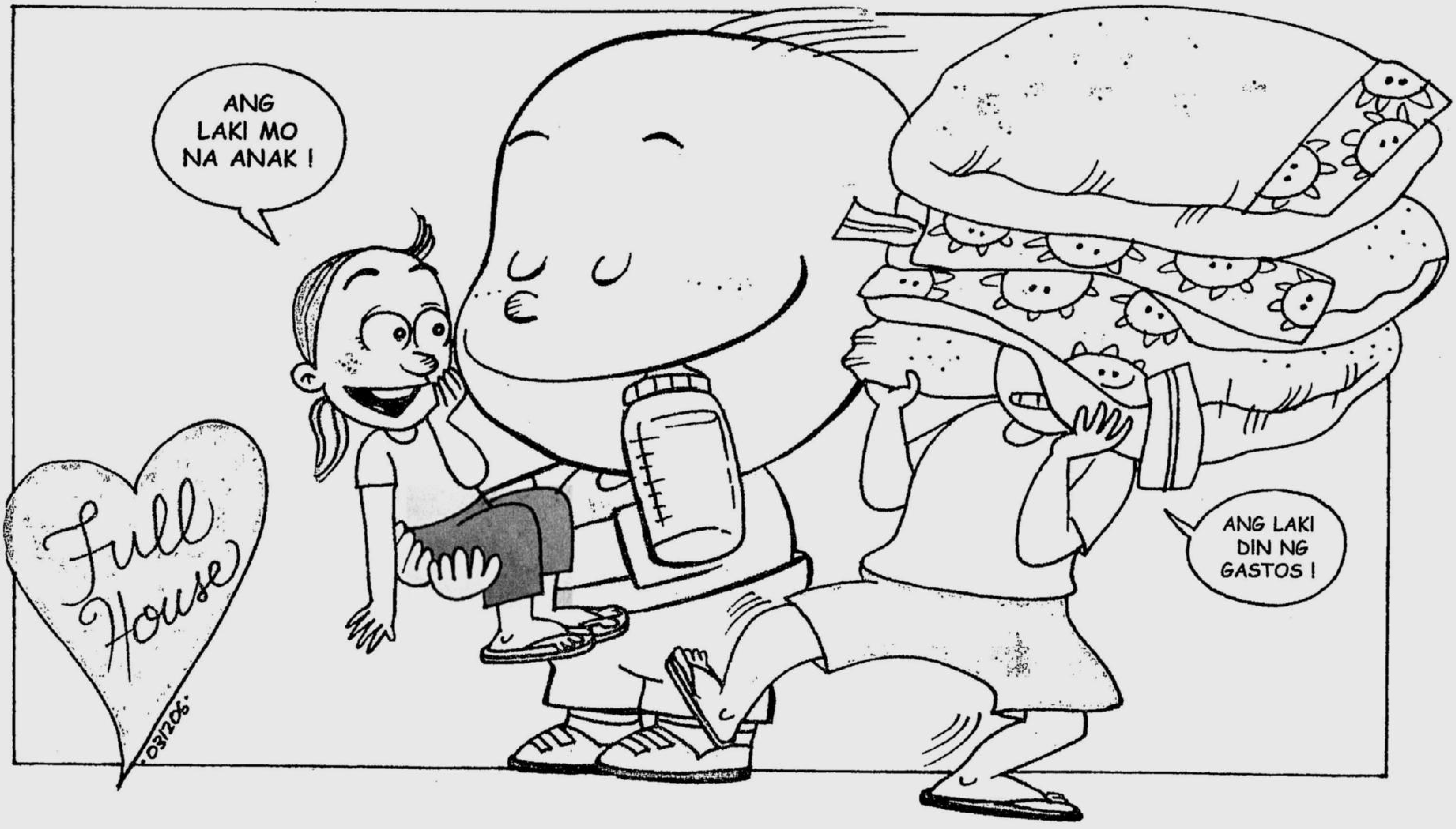
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS


GOOD EVENING
www.garfield.com
WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE REMAIN SEATED FOR THE DURATION OF THE PERFORMANCE...
© 2006 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
...AND TO KINDLY HOLD YOUR APPLAUSE UNTIL THE SHOW'S CONCLUSION
ALSO, NO SMOKING, TALKING, FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY, BEEPERS, LASER POINTERS, OR CELL PHONES
KONK!
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
-OR PINEAPPLES
JIM DAVIS 3-12
HOW ABOUT CHUNKED PINEAPPLE?

FULL HOUSE

BY STEPH BRAVO


ANG LAKI MO NA ANAK!
Full House
031206
ANG LAKI DIN NG GASTOS!

March 12, 2006

sundayINQUIRERmagazine

GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

The fall and 'redemption' of Mark Jimenez

Back from a two-year prison term in the United States, the controversial ex-congressman and Erap's "corporate genius" recounts his humbling days as Prisoner No. 69335-004, and how his families fell apart

by Cynthia Balana
photographs by Raffy Lerma

The man who would be a power broker during President Joseph Estrada's term is now a repentant shadow of his former self. Declares Mark Jimenez: "Yes, I got lost but now I'm back. I was slandered, brutalized and crucified by a lot of people not knowing that I would be coming back," he says. "But I bear no anger, no vengeance. I only have forgiveness for myself and the forgiveness of God in my heart."

Jailed in the United States for two years for tax evasion and illegal campaign contribution, the 59-year-old former representative of Manila's sixth district had quietly slipped into the country in December. He says he has since recovered from the rigors of prison life at the Allen Wood Security Correctional Institute in Pennsylvania but is still struggling to be at peace with himself.

Jimenez says the road to prison dealt a devastating blow to his families. A father to 12 children by three women, he fondly remembers his partners as 7-3-2, to represent the number of offspring he had with each. His youngest child, Mark Jr., is only two, and was born when he was about to serve his sentence.

To page 6

The loves of Annie Brazil, *p.3*

Big Brother's shrink *p.4*

Victor Wood's faded glory *p.8*

LoveNotes

by Joe 'D Mango

Learning from memories good and bad

Thank you for making me believe that you loved me, even if you didn't. I wouldn't have known how strong I was if not for you

Dear Joe,

I met him through my barkada in college. We exchanged text messages until our cellphone batteries got drained. We were so much in love, Joe.

But something happened in our relationship that made us feel bitter toward each other. I found out he was flirting with another girl. I read his messages on his Friendster and on his mobile phone, and even the messages he sent her. He had been seeing the other girl behind my back, Joe. I saw his Christmas gift for her and it hurt me, because he never bothered to give me anything, when in fact, I was his legitimate girl at that time.

We broke up for a month. But I still loved him and found a way for us to get back again. Still, I just couldn't forget that he cheated on me, so we'd break up, get together then break up again. There was even one time when we stayed together only for one week.

During those times, I thought I had already moved on, and that I was okay, but I was wrong.

I thought he was serious because he even dumped his girlfriend at that time to be with me. Then one night, he stopped texting me and wouldn't answer my calls. I was sick at that time.

The next morning, I received a message from him, telling me that there was something wrong with his cell phone, that he was sorry for not being able to answer my messages and calls. Suddenly, that was it—the end of our relationship. He never called me again or even texted me.

After what happened, I vowed to myself that I would move on and start my life anew. With that, I changed my mobile phone number. Slowly, I became happy again. But one day I came across him inside a mall. I was stunned when he looked away and kissed the girl he was with—right in front of me.

Joe, I was so depressed and devastated that I cried every night. And then I found out that the girl he kissed lived only a couple of houses away from me!

I'm still moving on, Joe. And as I move on, I'll be leaving the past behind. I will be leaving the pain he's caused me, so that when we meet again, I'll be better. I could then thank him for making me strong.

So to the one who broke my heart, thank you for all the things you put me through. Thank you for all the memories, good or bad. Lastly, thank you for making me believe that you loved me, even if you didn't. I wouldn't know how strong I was if not for you.

Sincerely yours,
Fatima

Dear Fatima,

There are men who have a way with words and know just the right strategy to keep women wanting them. Many abuse this ability to take advantage of women's vulnerability and make them fall into a painful trap of lies, deceit and exploitation. You were made to believe that you were wanted and loved but the fact was, you weren't. You were wanted because he needed you physically. You were made to believe that you were loved because that was the only way he could keep you and suit his needs.

Fatima, it is not wrong to love, it is not wrong to give ourselves to the person we love. But, we have to remember that in love, only two wholes make a whole. We cannot empty ourselves too much into a person because when he goes, we would be totally helpless and weak . We should be able to love and still be complete. We should be able to give but still have something left to keep us alive. You have loved him with all your heart and sacrificed everything because you believed that he loved you in return. But he was just playing with your feelings all this time. You were there just because he needed you and not because he loved you. He has hurt you and wants to hurt you still.

I admire the way you look at your situation. Pain should not make us lose hope, but rather motivate us to strive to become someone better. When someone hurts us, we should use that energy to search for the strength that we have in our hearts. We should be thankful that we've learned to become stronger because of that person. And when someone stops loving us, we should be thankful because then we'd learn to accept it and live our lives again in search of true and lasting happiness. Q

This letter won second prize in the Romance at The Malls (Lovenotes) contest. To subscribe to Joe D' Mango's love tips and advice, just txt ON DEARJOE to 2968.

First Person

by *Divina C. Paredes*

In search of the kitchen god

In a family known for great cooking, the author had always been an anomaly. It took three decades, migration to a foreign land and countless kitchen disasters for her to finally slay the hungry demons nipping at her heels

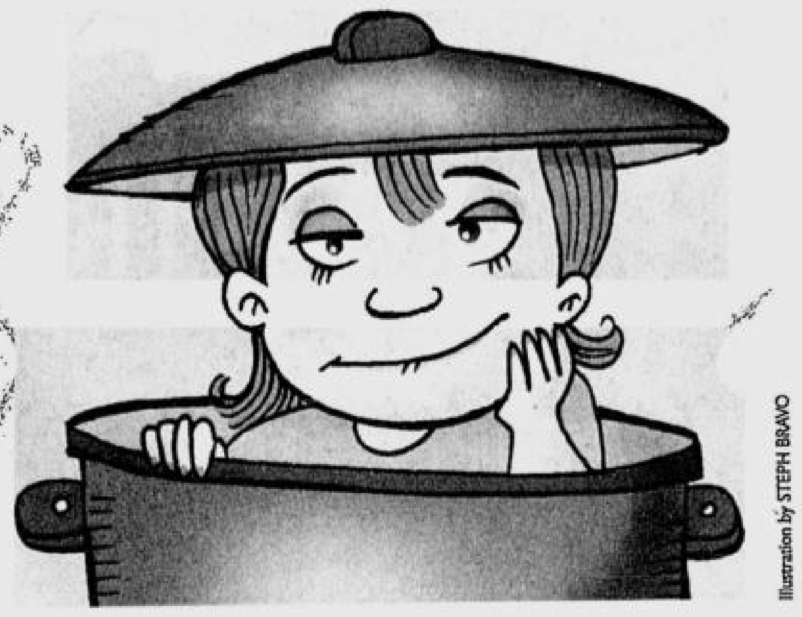


Illustration by STEPH BRAVO

IT was a secret I had harbored for long, and the source of a family joke: I was a klutz in the kitchen.

The repertoire of dishes I could whip out sans a recipe on hand was just a handful. These were the usual suspects, mainly one-dish meals like *sinigang, adobo, tinola,* spaghetti, fried rice. Nothing fancy, all very basic.

Now, that confession may not be shattering, but in my family, being a less than gifted cook is an anomaly. If there is a gene for great cooking, it must run in my mother's veins. My mom, Liwayway, was a social worker and a superb cook. Half-Pampango (via Angeles City) and half-Tagalog (via Pasig), she married my father Amante, a genuine Ilocano (via Sta. Cruz, Ilocos Sur and Batac), and learned how to cook *pinakbet* and *bulanglang* the way my father liked it.

My eldest sister Dulce has a post-doctorate degree in food technology from Cornell University. She is co-editor of the book "Chemistry of Taste," and her kitchen in Ossining, New York is always busy. My youngest sister Jane went to the Culinary Institute of America, worked as a chef, and teaches at Heny Sison's cooking school.

The middle daughter, that's me, was a stranger in the kitchen. Once, while watching my sister Jane prepare a seafood dish and a casserole simultaneously and effortlessly, I wished cooking would come as easily to me as writing.

Even when I got married and moved to my own home, the situation did not change. My mom and my sister Jane were always there to cook for me. An elderly aunt moved in with me to help take care of my son Dino Japa, and do the cooking. It did not help that my son's preference was for anything crisp and fried, without sauce, not even catsup. He is autistic, which accounts for his quirky food choices. There was no incentive for me to get acquainted with the kitchen, more so when my husband died less than five years into our marriage.

With my son on a perpetual diet of french fries, crispy *tocino* and corned beef, I was basically cooking for myself. And if I wanted a nice, home-cooked meal, my mother's house was just a few minutes away.

Eight years later, when I got a scholarship to study at the University of Sydney, my mother saved me from messing up the kitchen of our small apartment. She took care of Dino and cooked the meals while I met my deadlines for academic papers and research reports.

When my son and I migrated to New Zealand in 2000, I knew my day of reckoning in the kitchen had arrived. My mom saved the day—again—by staying with me in the Land of the Long White Cloud for the first six months. She confessed one of the reasons she joined me was her fear that I would starve to death (really unlikely), subsist on instant noodles or keep the nearby Chinese takeaway shop very busy. She thus saved me yet again from getting up close and personal with my kitchen accoutrements.

Dutiful daughter that I was, I drove her to the supermarket and flea markets where she bought all the ingredients for our fine meals. For my son, she made spring rolls, *chicharon* (from scratch, buying the pork rind from the butcher), tempura and fried battered fish roe.

I was left to fend for myself when my mom decided to return to New York. One of my greatest regrets was that I was not able to show my mom my newfound interest in cooking. The next time I saw my mother after her Auckland sojourn, was two years later in New York, where she just had surgery for cancer of the colon. For the first time in our 40 years together, I prepared her food, but these were basically simple fare as her infirm system could not take anything stronger than porridge, oatmeal, soft-boiled eggs and mashed fruit and vegetables. Amazingly, one of our last conversations centered on the wonderful family gatherings we had where she prepared all our favorite dishes (her *estofadong dila* and *kare kare* are to my mind, non-pareil).

My early kitchen experiments were often successful, but sad to say, many of them were "one-hit wonders." For the life of me, I could not understand, for instance, how I could make the perfect pork *asado* following my mother's recipe, and then make a complete disaster of the dish on my second attempt.

But I was relentless in my goal to acquire some cooking skills. I had no choice. The reality of living in another country where common ingredients used in Filipino dishes are not available led me to become inventive. I initially used lemon to produce the sour broth for *sinigang*, until I discovered that *sampaloc* was sold bottled or frozen in the Asian shops. Before *mustasa* (mustard leaves) became widely available, I learned to use broccoli, mushrooms, *bok choi* or *pechay* for my *sinigang* and its nearest Thai counterpart *tom yum*, and asparagus in place of papaya (called *pawpaw* here and quite expensive) for *tinola*. Salmon heads are among the cheapest seafood available, so I experimented with using them for *sinigang*. Their pink color and flesh perk up the broth.

I learned to revel in the fact that I live in a land that produces the best beef, lamb and pork. And most of the time, these produce do not need much embellishment—marinating them slightly, and just roasting, pan frying or throwing them on the barbeque pit are enough to produce a tasty main dish. The same goes for fish. I chop onions, chives and tomatoes, stuff these inside the fish, wrap the fish in foil and broil it.

My newfound interest in cooking also led me to grow my own herbs like coriander (*wansuy*), parsley and chillies (whose tender leaves are used in *tinola*). When I make pasta or casserole, I pick leaves from the laurel plant in my garden.

I've also learned to use the kitchen as a training ground for my son's basic numerical skills. He measures cups of flour, counts the eggs to be used in the cakes and cookies, and alerts me if the timer goes off. Later, he learned how to shape *ensaymada* and *pan de sal*, and mold *polvoron*.

A major lesson from all these mishaps and successes was the need to be forthright with myself and my kitchen capabilities. One thing I have accepted is that kitchen disasters do happen and when they do, nobody needs to know. Once I made sweet potato or *kumara* bread. After waiting for two hours, I decided the still unleavened rolls should go inside the oven so that the heat can work wonders on the timid yeast. The cooked buns resembled rock-hard *putok* (the sweet round hard bread that is a *panaderia* staple). They tasted great, but would score zero for texture. Out the window they went . The birds that hovered around our house—waiting for the leftover bread and balls of rice my son and neighbors used to throw out—were ecstatic. In less then five minutes, all evidence of my failed kitchen experiment was gone, decimated, zilch.

Recently, a friend gave me an easy to follow recipe for *ensaymada*. It turned out a bit tough, and curiously, tasted like *monay*. I didn't ditch the recipe, I simply relabelled it *monay*.

Indeed, I am no stranger now to kitchen splatter and spills. My main recipe books—"A Culinary Life" signed by Nora Daza when I attended the book launch in the 1990s, and the classic American tome "Joy of Cooking" given by my hopeful mom years ago—now have tell-tale signs of spilled batter, scribbles and post-it notes to mark favorite pages.

I no longer panic when friends call to say they would come over for lunch or dinner, or resort to takeaway food when I invite them to a meal that is not a "bring a

To page 7

Sunday Inquirer Magazine March 12, 2006
Vol. 20 No. 2 ISSN 0116 - 232X

Editor in Chief **Alya B. Honasan**
Managing Editor **Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz**
Associate Editor **Ruel S. De Vera**
Staff Writer **Eric S. Caruncho**
Graphic Designer **Chuchie Quevedo-See**
Design Consultant **Lynett A. Villariba**
Editorial Assistant **Sharon M. Felipe**
Advertising & Sales Manager **Kenny Nuyda**

THE Sunday INQUIRER MAGAZINE holds office at Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, with telephone number 897-8808 locals 317 and 318. Mailing address: PO Box 2050, 1099 Manila, Philippines. E-mail: sim@inquirer.com.ph. For press releases, send e-mail to pr_sim@inquirer.com.ph.

The **Sunday Inquirer Magazine** accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <poetry_sim@inquirer.com.ph>

Sipat sa Sinturon

Mayhigpit daw ngayon
muli ng sinturon
tayong wala kahit pambili ng kangkong.
Maididighay rin
ang lugaw at asin
habang naghahandang mangarap nang gising.
Bakit di mang-umit
kung talagang gipit?
Palo ng sinturon ang sagot sa paslit
Na nag-uumiyak
dahil naghahanap
ng ibang pagkain sa matandang hapag.
Bakit sasandakot
ang busog na busog
(sa yaman) at laksa ang naghihikahos?
May pagkakataong
pamalit sa tanong
ang pagsukong sakdal-lagim kung itaghoy:
Kaya di minsan lang
natin nasaksihang
may nagpakabigti sa sinturong iyan.

Lamberto E. Antonio

Greenwich queen: Singing at Stagionale's Italian Bistro

Encounter

by C.H. Pardo
photographs by M. R. Pardo

No cover, No minimum, No reservations: Annie Brazil talks about the loves of her life

This Filipino jazz icon, who's now a regular attraction in Greenwich Village, New York, says that love is good for companionship, but sexy men are—well, nice!

STILL slim and youthful at 71, Annie Brazil has traveled the world singing jazz standards with the likes of Duke Ellington, Sarah Vaughan, Lionel Hampton and Louis Armstrong. Her classic style has been nurtured by the American presence in the Philippines from the turn of the century to the postwar years through the US bases in Clark and Olongapo.

SIM *caught up with Annie in two sessions in New York City and New Jersey's suburbs. She has been singing in the world's capital of jazz, in one of the most famous neighborhoods on earth, Greenwich Village. She loves her Friday and Saturday night shows at Stagionale's Italian Bistro on Seventh Avenue and Bleecker Street, she says. It's just reward for all the dues she has paid.*

Annie recently flew home to sing the blues at Merk's Bar and Bistro in Greenbelt 3. She will also be releasing a live CD from her performances.

Here are excerpts from SIM*'s encounter with the jazz icon:*

Sunday Inquirer Magazine (SIM): Tell us about your early years.

A: My mother was from Iloilo, while my father was a *mestizo* from Leyte who spoke Spanish and loved to sing. I got his genes. We're 10 siblings in all, seven girls and three boys. Brazil was my mom's maiden name. During the war years, some of my sisters and I had a group called the Bulawin Sisters. We pretty much lived in the hills of Pililia, Rizal in those days.

SIM: When did you start performing in public?

A: After the war, when I was around 11, at this restaurant on Rizal Avenue owned by Dr. Zalamea. He had a piano, bass, trumpet and drum setup across from the Dalisay Theater. It was a tough gig, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. depending on my class schedule. Father was strict about school.

SIM: Where were you during martial law?

A: I worked at a recruiting agency during the day and sang at night. I was so tempted to make money under the table. Everyone did it. But I wanted to be able to walk down the street with my head up.

SIM: Where did you perform?

A: At the Pension on Vito Cruz, some hotels and even Hobbit House in Malate. That was fun. A friend of mine married one of the little people.

SIM: Can we talk about the loves of your life?

A: The loves of my life!?! I've had too many! Well, I had my first love when I was just 16. He was from Pampanga, a *tisoy*, and he wanted to get married! I said, no, no, no...my father said, NO!

Then, I met Charlie Preysler. We were in love! But love was not meant for us.

Charlie went on to become the father of Isabel Preysler, who was married to Spanish crooner, Julio Iglesias. They have a son, Enrique, who is bigger than his dad and going out with Russian tennis star, Maria Sharapova. We were in love, but that's love. We were not meant for each other.

With daughter Rachel Ann Wolff

SIM: Where did you meet Richard's (Merck) dad, James?

A: He was a radio disc jockey in the US Airforce in Okinawa. We fell in love and when my contract in Okinawa ended, I went home to Manila pregnant. We wrote each other. James wanted me to come to the States and be with him. My papers were all OK, but my father said, "If he loves you, then he should come and get you here!" It never happened.

SIM: You mean, you never saw James again?

A: No, he died when Richard was young. Richard found and contacted his family in 1999. In fact, I spoke with James's widow who thanked me. She said that if James had gone back to Manila for me when I was pregnant, she would never have married James nor had Richard's half sister Kathleen or half brother, Michael.

The young chanteuse at 16

SIM: Where did love take you next?

A: I met Rachel Ann's dad, David Wolff. He owned a night club in Hong Kong called High Ball. I had a contract to sing there. We fell in love and married in December during the 1950s.

We had all those kids and grief. One day, he left for a music promotion in London. We'd talk on the phone everyday. He wanted me to meet him in London. That was 1969. Well, I never heard from him again for 15 years. When anyone asked, all I would say was, David went out for a pack of cigarettes and lost his way home. Rumors went around for years. Friends of ours had seen him in Singapore, talked with him and recounted his womanizing. I was better off without him.

Meanwhile, I sang around town, had a daytime job and raised kids. One night, a friend took me to the Hilton lounge and introduced me to a singer who was the present girlfriend of David. What a surprise for both of us!

Her hands were like ice. She was stunned. We actually had lunch another day and I showed her photos of my children with David. I asked her to tell him to give me a divorce so they could marry each other. I mean, after all those years!

SIM: Did you ever see David Wolff again?

A: Yes. Actually a couple times in Manila. We went to the SM Mall and bought clothes for Rachel Ann. I took so long, he got angry at me for making him wait. I said, (expletive) you! I waited 15 years to hear from you! He's a sad, lonely man. He still calls off and on.

SIM: Aside from Rachel Ann, did you and David Wolff have other children?

A: We had seven, but five have died. So, it's just Richard, Rachel Ann and Rommel, 33, who are still around.

Annie Brazil
Live at Merk's

Her live CD from her Manila perfomance

SIM: How did you go on?

A: Well, you do move on with a heavy heart. You sing from a different place. I went abroad to perform, came home and it was a different story. Life has to go on.

SIM: What lessons has love taught you?

A: It's nice to feel loved. My singing is my love, but love is also companionship. It's nice to fall in love, *pero* sexy men—it's nice! *(guffaws)*

SIM: How was your November vacation in Manila? Where did you perform?

A: It was standing room only during my show at Richard's place,

To page 7

FAST TRACK TO A 2-YEAR U.S. REGISTERED NURSING DEGREE

St. Ignatius Health Science College has made it possible for Filipinos to obtain a U.S. registered nursing degree in two years. It has obtained official affiliation with a U.S. Nursing School to allow Filipino students to study 20 months here in the Philippines, and graduate as U.S. registered nurses after another semester in Fresno, California.

In the United States, it only takes 2 years to become a registered nurse. Two year graduates of the Associate of Science Degree in Nursing enjoy the same entry level salary and job description as 4-year Bachelor of Nursing degree holders. The only difference is that B.S. Nursing graduates ultimately can become nursing administrators, chief nurses and educators. Academically, only the subjects essential for the practice of nursing are incorporated in the two year program. Less important general education courses, humanities, and nursing leadership subjects are deferred until the registered nurse decides to obtain the B.S. degree in nursing for further academic advancement.

Because St. Ignatius students are regarded as U.S. nursing graduates when they graduate from Fresno City College, they automatically qualify for the NCLEX in all 50 States. No other examinations are needed to get a job - no TOEFL, CGFNS, TSE, TWE or IELTS.

For those graduates who wish to go into administration, St. Ignatius also arranged for them to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree from another well established accredited University. All units obtained previously from St. Ignatius will be credited. They can pursue the Bachelor's degree while they are gainfully employed and enjoying excellent salaries.

This venue allows prospective nurses to be productive in the short span of two years. In a typical 4-year B.S. Nursing program, there is a year spent for reviewing for various examinations, and a 3-year wait for their visas in the Philippines. This is a total of 8 years in which these students are non-productive. In contrast, a 2-year graduate can be gainfully employed, earning as much as $60,000 a year, after two years. They can start repaying all their debts, take care of their parents and families, and start sponsoring other brothers and sisters in their quest for higher education.

The man who brought this opportunity to Filipinos is Johnny Y. Fong, M.D., a graduate of the Ateneo de Manila High School and the U.P. College of Medicine. He had his pediatric residency at the University of Illinois. He is a licensed pediatrician in California, New York and Illinois. In 2002, he established the Loyola Medical College Foundation, a non-profit, non-stock charitable organization, which formed the San Beda College of Medicine in consortium with San Beda College. In 2004, the foundation donated the Rose and Albert Fong Health Science Building to SBC and established the San Beda College of Nursing. A proponent of excellence in education, he was able to elevate SBC College of Nursing to its current rank of number 3 in the Philippines in its category in the short span of 2 years with the help of his academic staff. In its last Philippine Board performance, SBC had a pass rate of 88% and a graduate among the top ten topnotchers.

St. Ignatius Health Science College is independent of SBC legally, financially and academically. It is affiliated with Fresno City College of Nursing, an institution accredited by the U.S. National League of Nursing and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. It has a pass rate of 98% in the NCLEX. Using the same curriculum and review materials, St. Ignatius is committed to an NCLEX pass rate of 98% or higher.

St. Ignatius Health Science College is located at Suite 2A, 92A West Avenue, Quezon City. For more information, visit www.stignatiuscollege.com.

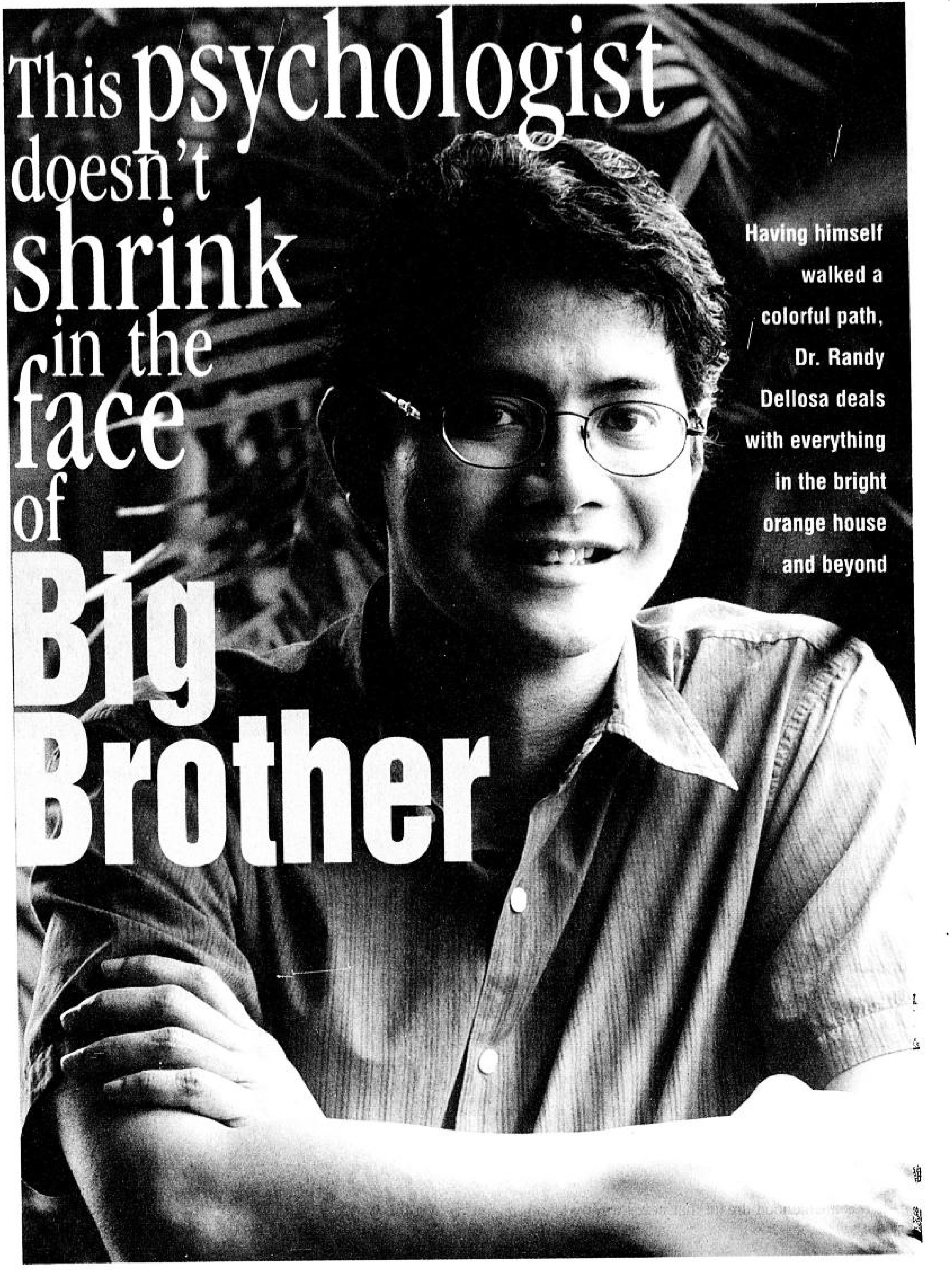
Email address is ST.IGNATIUS.COLLEGE@GMAIL.COM Telephone numbers are 373-8707 and 373-6623. Text and mobile cell phone is 0915-780-5797.

ADVT

Seen on Tv

by Ces Rodriguez
photographs by Ryan Lim

This psychologist doesn't shrink in the face of Big Brother



Having himself walked a colorful path, Dr. Randy Dellosa deals with everything in the bright orange house and beyond

WHICH actor couldn't get it up? But only with his wife. Which Pinoy Big Brother housemate began dreaming of death deep into the reality show's three-month lab-rat confinement?

And what happened to the marine biologist, said to be popular in his field, who squirmed through a potentially traumatic re-birthing process so he could "discover himself through his body"?

Stumped? Well, there's always Randy Misael Sebastian Dellosa, who has all the answers. Dellosa was the in-house psychologist of the massively popular reality show, which had cameras trained on 13 people 24/7 for a little over three months. He applied for the job and stays on as house psychologist for the show's celebrity edition.

But as a certified shrink, practicing psychologist, and proponent of New Age-inspired therapies, Dellosa can't out his clients. Fortunately, the master of the blind item is willing to throw us the juice.

"He's in his 20s," he says of the selectively dysfunctional actor. "This guy believes he has to be loyal to his wife so he can't fantasize during sex. He should focus only on his wife. But since they've lived together for a long time, he can't get aroused with her anymore. So he's impotent with his wife. He tried himself out with another woman and it worked. But he can't get that experience in his own bedroom."

The solution? Permission to roam, mentally at least, while he's having sex with his wife. "I tell him, 'Your wife will never know.' The fantasy actually enhances the relationship. So true enough, after half a year, they had a child."

As for the housemate with dreams of death, Dellosa says the dreams are symbolic of "missing people, missing loved ones, or a symbol of the death of a part of themselves."

On the other hand, the marine biologist was "body-oriented" and didn't like talking, according to Dellosa, so the re-birthing exercise was an appropriate option.

So why is a preternaturally young-looking doctor of psychiatry who's been practicing for 20 years, messing around with old-school regression-catharsis therapy, dream analysis, as well as life coaching/counseling, breathwork therapy, expressive arts therapy, spiritual direction session, healing visualization sessions, touch therapy for emotional wholeness, body reading session, exercises to integrate the body, mind and emotions, meditation, stress release bodywork therapy, nutritional healing, holosync healing sounds therapy, bio-energetic clearing and balancing, and oriental body treatments?

Doesn't it all sound a tad too… a) peacenik-y, b) grab-bag, c) dubious in a Sigmund Freud-meets-Dr. Phil kind of way?

Holistic healing

"Personally I want to be known as a person who does holistic healing as compared to psychiatrists who just prescribe medicines after seeing patients for 10 to 15 minutes," he says. A BS psychology graduate of the University of the Philippines, Dellosa took up his medical degree at the Far Eastern University before majoring in psychiatry.

Although Dellosa continues to do grunt work for true-blue schizophrenics and manic-depressives, he schedules his clinical cases all in one day to keep them separate from his self-discovery clients.

"There's still a stigma when one goes to a shrink so people still hide the fact that they need it or that they go to one. That's sad…. On the other hand, there are people who need it but don't know who to go to. And that's why I want to promote myself," he admits candidly. "There are people who are hurting but who go to mediocre people-helpers."

No Dr. Phil: Dellosa is not a "mediocre people-helper"

He recalls being shamanistically treated by a well-known New Age healer-cum-everything else. He was asked to strip and was then massaged quite vigorously and painfully. When he asked her the physiological basis for her procedures, she waved the question aside. "But you'd be surprised by her clientele list. A lot of them are from the academe."

Dr. Phil is another person who gets his goat. The tough-talking television psychologist got his leg-up from Oprah Winfrey when he helped her analyze and read the jury after she was sued by cattle raisers when she uttered "I've eaten my last hamburger" during a show on mad cow disease. "I don't really like Dr. Phil," confesses Dellosa. "The thing is, he gives advice so quickly. I've been invited to talk shows, and the most difficult thing is to give advice when you don't really know the whole context," he argues. "And then he's quite judgmental."

Which is something Dellosa avoids in his therapies. "I think people want to be listened to first and then understood and affirmed. Their decision may be wrong, but they still believe it's the best decision they could have made."

But how does one affirm a client ("they don't want to be called patients") who has made a patently wrong decision?

"Listening is already affirming. Non-judging is affirming. Finding out the context of why he or she made that decision is affirming," he explains.

"What I try to do afterwards is find out what he or she really wants inside. That's where you find your true or authentic self that dictates the steps to be taken. For example, you may be hitched with a married man but if I ask your true self, you really don't want to be. Or you want out. It's trying to find out what your true self wants and then finding out your options."

Even his clinical patients are encouraged to undergo such next steps after they're treated with medications. While not a great fan of drugs, Dellosa agrees that drugs do stabilize chemical imbalances. "It's not just a problem in life" but something else that affects the body, he says. "In that case, I use medicines more as a support. I treat it first and then after they're okay, I talk about the problems that triggered it. That's the next step. Sometimes I don't stop at treatment, I go towards life enhancement."

Which apparently he was not supposed to dispense as resident psychologist on Pinoy Big Brother. He came to the house once a week to counsel housemates confidentially and off camera. "As the PBB shrink, I'm always tempted to do therapy on them. But I'm only given 10 to 15 minutes with them."

Disembodied voice

Worse—and true to the show's cabin feverish conditions—housemates could only direct their questions to a camera. For his part, Dellosa holed up in the room of the equally disembodied voice that played Big Brother, and murmured his reassurances through a monitor.

In fact, since his name was not revealed until the end of the show, housemates would invent names for him. "The easiest for them was to call me Doc. But some of them didn't like the idea of opening up to a doctor so they started giving me other names. Say gave me the name of Bart. Franzen called me Jasper." The names, he adds, are a way for the housemates to humanize the camera.

"Racquel gave me the name MRS because she has ESP (extra sensory perception). And true enough, the first initials of my name are RMS-Randy Misael Sebastian. It's uncanny," says Dellosa.

So what exactly was his job description as Big Brother shrink?

"To calm the housemates down," he replies, laughing.

While someone else did the preliminary profile on the candidates to see if they could handle the stress of a fishbowl existence on the show, Dellosa was actually hired to evaluate the candidates for "suicidal or aggressive behavior" during their confinement.

He recalls the phases that marked the housemates' detention. The first was the loss of privacy ("they say that they're being watched even in the toilet"). After two to three weeks, the reality lab rats began venting about interpersonal relationships within the house. And then there was the homesickness, which became worse as the show wore on. "They also start having dreams about death which are symbolic."

Creative drama

His job, he says, was simply to act as a sounding board. "I see it in terms of incomplete healing. Just for them to ventilate is already therapeutic so I don't go the extra mile to change them." Besides, he admits, "if I do therapy on them, their neurosis will disappear and it's their neurosis that creates the drama!"

Curiously enough, Dellosa never really watched the show. Perhaps because his clinic hours are from 2 p.m. to 12 midnight so that celebrity clients could see him under the anonymous cover of late hours.

In fact, Dellosa himself, though eager to reach out to potential clients besieged by fandom, admits to hermetic tendencies. "I'm a loner most of the time because after a day of listening to problems, I don't want to see anybody anymore." While he plays tennis and flies out yearly to attend an intensive month-long gestalt wellness program, he aspires to become a monk. "I feel like I've evolved to that position wherein I'm content by myself."

Which may account for a lackadaisical love life he would rather not discuss. Or, long into the boot-by date for adult children, bunking in the home of his parents (an engineer and a doctor) who spend long stretches with his youngest sister in Hawaii.

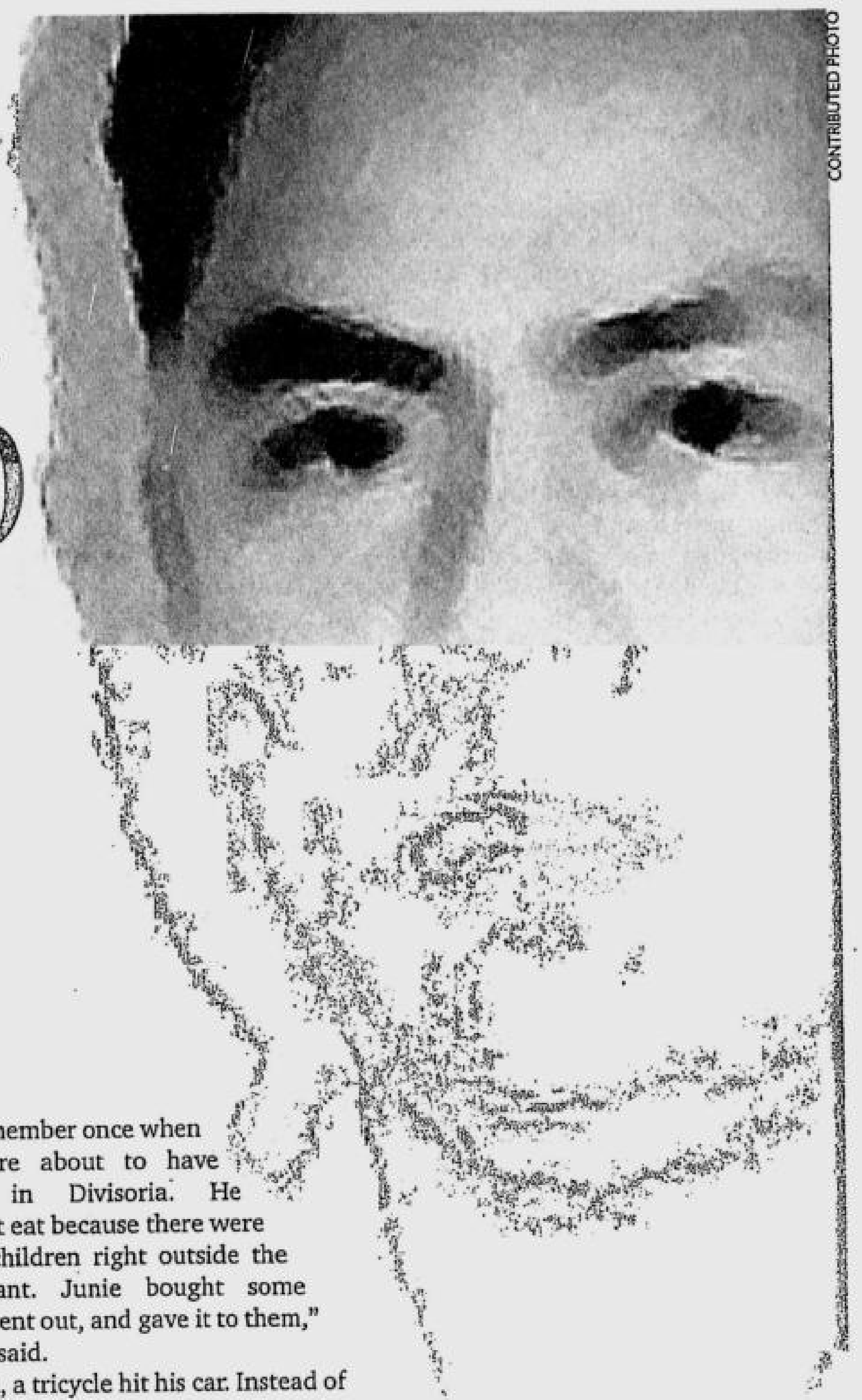
Besides, it was the "license to do what I want to do, to be freakish" that led him into psychiatry in the first place, he says.

While Dellosa admits that his own description may be a stereotype, his eagerness to embrace the problems of the famous and his reticence to personally bask in the world of adulation or interpersonal relationships, makes him a shrink who sounds as unusual as the goody bag of therapies he holds out for all takers. Q

In Memoriam

by Nikko L. Dizon

The hero who fell to earth and lit up the sky



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The family that Capt. Junie Amatong left behind tries to make sense of the Air Force hero's life and final sacrifice

TO THE COUNTRY'S President, his colleagues, and the media, Philippine Air Force (PAF) Capt. Aniano "Junie" Amatong, Jr. was a hero who sacrificed his life to save an entire village.

But for the woman who loved him the most, he was a passionate soldier who perished, leaving her without a husband, and their young son, without a father.

"'Hero' is just a word to me now. Kyle and I were the ones he left behind. Heroic? *Ako iniwan, eh*," Junie's widow, Arlene, said two weeks after the fatal accident.

There is raw pain in the petite 33-year-old's every word. Awards and recognition were given to Junie after his death, including a PAF Distinguished Aviation Cross Award, the highest award conferred to aviators in the Air Force.

"But what would I do with the awards?" Arlene sighed.

On the morning of Jan. 24, Amatong, 31, and his co-pilot, Capt. James Acosta, his upperclassman at the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), were on their way to Clark Field, Pampanga for an aerial combat maneuvers exercise with US troops when their OV-10 Bronco aircraft developed engine trouble.

Broken body

By Acosta's account, Amatong had ordered him to eject, but the latter remained in the crippled aircraft to steer it away from the houses below in Barangay Binakod, Paombong, Bulacan.

Within seconds, the fixed-wing, two-engine aircraft crashed into a fishpond. Amatong's body was found a few meters away from the wreck, his parachute deployed, indicating that he tried to eject at the last minute.

It was his *mistahs* from the PMA who recovered his broken body.

Junie was born on July 23, 1974 in Cebu City, the second in the brood of seven of retired Army Capt. Aniano Amatong and wife, Judith.

Junie had always wanted to become a pilot since riding on a military C-130 cargo plane with his parents when he was about three years old.

"The plane was full and the pilot had asked if there were children who wanted to ride in front. Junie volunteered," Judith recalled.

It was a childhood dream that never wavered, Judith said, not even when she saw that Junie was already physically and emotionally drained from the rigors of the elite PMA training.

"I'd cry then hug him and kiss him whenever I visited him at the academy. He seemed embarrassed by my show of affection, but as a mother, I didn't want to see him suffer. I begged him to quit and go home," Judith said.

But Junie stayed on and graduated from the PMA in 1996. He trained as an OV-10 pilot at the PAF Flying School and saw combat in encounters with rebel secessionist groups in Mindanao, the hardest of which were the battles during the time of then President Joseph Estrada.

He also inspired his younger brother, Augustus, to enter the academy. Augustus is now a junior officer in the Philippine Navy.

Even before Junie was promoted to captain in March 2003, he was already a recipient of several military awards in the government's fight against the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

"Junie loved to fly so much," said Arlene. "I really can't explain it. He would become irritable when a scheduled flight was cancelled. Sometimes, I would catch myself thinking that he died doing the one thing he really loved."

Dedicated soldier

Junie was a dedicated soldier but he also never failed to show that he was human, his wife continued.

"He would ask me if he'd still go to heaven because he knew that every time he dropped a bomb, people were killed, whether they were rebels or innocent civilians."

Junie had wanted to become a general, Arlene said, because he wanted to change a lot of things in the Armed Forces and in the country.

"But he was a soldier loyal to his government, whoever is in the seat of power. He didn't join the Magdalo group because he told me there were other ways to achieve the change that everybody wanted," Arlene said.

In his own way, the soldier also showed his compassion for the less fortunate.

Often, Arlene and Judith recounted, he would give food to street children.

"I remember once when we were about to have lunch in Divisoria. He couldn't eat because there were street children right outside the restaurant. Junie bought some food, went out, and gave it to them," Arlene said.

Once, a tricycle hit his car. Instead of demanding that the driver pay for the damage, it was Junie who gave the man P300 for the repair of the tricycle.

Once, when husband and wife had a major fight, Junie drove Arlene back to her father's house in Alabang. "He remembered what my dad told him when we got married: '*Isauli mo ang anak ko sa akin kapag nag-away kayo*.' My dad was so surprised that Junie heeded his advice," Arlene said.

Remembering the incident, Judith added: "And when he came back to our house, Junie was crying really hard."

That Junie chose to save other people's lives rather than his own came as no surprise to Arlene, even if the act broke her own heart.

She expressed hope that the accident that claimed her husband's life would be another "eye opener" for the Armed Forces, particularly to the Air Force, which is struggling with a fleet of aging aircraft. "But then again, it always ends up as just an 'eye opener,' " Arlene said.

Hero and leader

In 2001, one of the Air Force's first female pilots, Lt. Mary Grace Baloyong, was killed when her OV-10 crashed near Clark Air Base.

The OV-10 Bronco is a twin-engine aircraft used by the Armed Forces for close air support missions, aerial reconnaissance, and cloud seeding operations. It can also carry a wide variety of bombs and other air munitions.

"I am from a military family like him, so I was always aware of the dangers in a soldier's life," said Arlene. "But no one, nothing, could ever prepare you for the death of your lifetime partner."

A few days after Junie's death, Kyle wore his father's helmet, which was recovered from the crash site and still reeked of jet fuel. "He started saying, 'I'll be a pilot like dad!' And I said no! I will not allow my son to become a soldier," Arlene admitted.

There was also a time when Arlene heard Kyle say, "My dad's a hero. My dad's a leader."

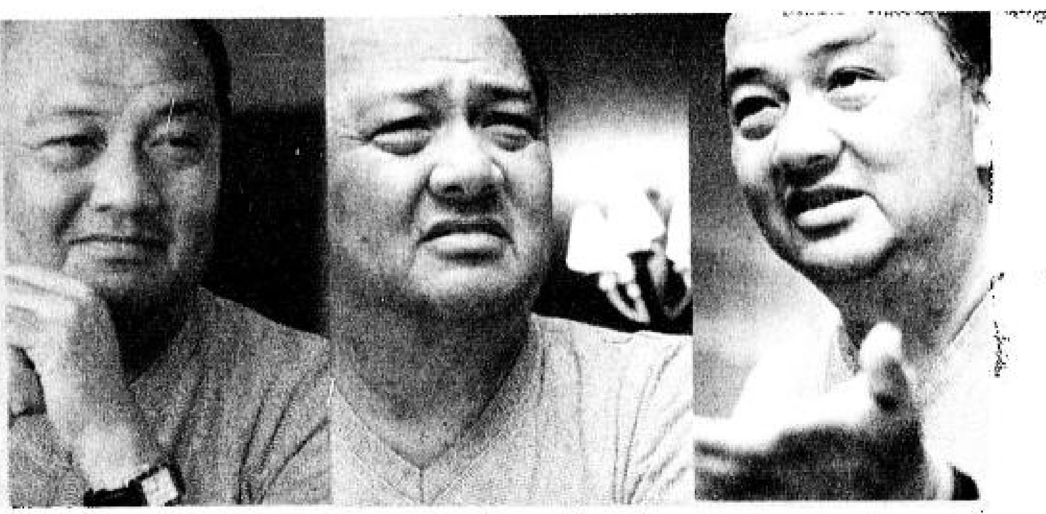
Maybe, Arlene surmised, their son's teachers taught him that to help him cope with the loss. And maybe, in time, Arlene said, she herself would learn to accept Junie's heroic act. Q

In this dump site, it's not just the environment that's being abused.

The Philippine Daily Inquirer supports the drive to help stop child labor. Call Child Justice League at 931-6147. DSWD

Mark

...from page 1



Emotional trauma: "It felt like I was falling into an abyss."

With him in prison, his families fell apart, he says. A daughter was on Prozac for five weeks. Another daughter had a total nervous breakdown and is still undergoing rehabilitation. A son turned to substance abuse. Another son ended up drifting from one school to another to avoid classmates' ridicule. Still another became an alcoholic. Another daughter had to sprinkle holy water on his second wife who broke down because she could no longer handle the adverse reports against him.

Emotional trauma

"The money I spent for lawyers is nothing compared to the emotional trauma my family and I had to go through in the course of the litigation," he confesses. "I wish that the costly fees for legal services could include sparing my family from that horrible experience." His families have recovered somehow, but they've all been scarred, he says.

He himself recalls prison life as nothing short of traumatic.

"The US sought my extradition for tax evasion, an extraditable offense, and not for illegal campaign contribution which is not a crime in the Philippines," Jimenez explains. He says only $2,000 per individual is allowed for hard-money contribution. He was sentenced to 27 months in prison, although this was reduced to 23 months.

"I still can't believe it. There I was in an American detention facility for the crime of making an illegal contribution to a political campaign fund," he says. "*Sa Pilipinas, mangurakot ka, magnakaw ka, bida ka. Sa* America, *wala akong ninakaw at nagbigay pa nga ako ng sarili kong pera para sa pinaniniwalaan kong kawsa, kinulong ako*. (In the Philippines, you steal and you plunder and you're a big shot. In America, I stole nothing and even gave of my own money for a cause I believe in and I land in jail). What an irony!"

Jimenez says he was supposed to be confined in a "747" rehabilitation facility in Georgia, socializing with the likes of Martha Stewart and other white-collar offenders, like violators of American securities laws. Instead, he was sent to a minimum security facility in Pennsylvania.

The all-male facility which houses 3,500 offenders does not have the stereotyped features of a detention center, though. It looks more like a resort in a huge compound where only the two main doors are locked. His cell measured five by seven feet and was just like an open room without a door. It had a double deck and a single deck bed arranged like a letter "L" and had a high ceiling.

Prisoner 69335-004

There, he was Prisoner 69335-004, or inmate Mark Jimenez. He was relatively free to move around, subject to regulations. Shower rooms were communal, and there were surprise visits to the rooms for inspection of drugs, liquor and other prohibited substances. The use of the Internet was restricted, while all incoming letters were censored.

Everyone was given two sets of uniforms, of which were khaki. Each one had a nametag on the front of his shirt and another one at the right rear pocket of his trousers. Shoes were also provided.

The population at the Pennsylvania facility is made up of Filipinos, Latinos and blacks. It houses even hardened criminals, but is divided into maximum security, medium security and minimum security sections.

Jimenez says that murderers, rapists, thieves and the like were mixed with petty offenders like him because some offenders in maximum security would be moved to the minimum security section during their rehabilitation period whenever they displayed good behavior. Offenders range in age from 20 to 70, and their crimes are as varied. In general, everybody was cordial to him because he was cordial to them, too. "We Filipinos stuck together, tried to keep a very low profile and befriended as many as possible. At any one time, there are eight to 14 Filipinos in the facility, most of whom are involved in drug or fraud-related offenses," he says.

Jimenez and other inmates would usually be up by 5:30 a.m., in time for breakfast at 6, and work at 8. Each had an assignment, ranging from sweeping the floor to cleaning the house. Roll call was at 12 midnight, 3 a.m. and 5 a.m. There was also a stand-up count at 4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m.

"I was assigned to clean the doorknob, take care of the laundry and, at times, to take out the trash. If you are given, say, three hours to finish your work, you had to be at your station for that entire period even if you were done," Jimenez recounts.

Expired food

Breakfast usually consisted of oatmeal, beans, bread, marmalade, eggs, coffee and juice. Monday lunches featured a leg of fried chicken. All other meals consisted of either fajitas, burgers or hotdogs. Jimenez adds: "It sounds good but the food was largely unpalatable because of the way they were cooked. The fajitas had a bad smell, the burgers were burned, the hotdogs were overcooked, the pancakes felt rubbery. Grocery-obtained food items and beverages were either expired, about to expire, or are factory rejects. I believe that all this was deliberately done so that nobody in the facility forgets that he is under rehabilitation."

Detainees were allowed to make regular purchases from the commissary but within the pre-set ceiling fixed by the facility for everyone. Each detainee had an account for this purpose, duly monitored by the authorities of the facility. Items sold at the commissary were also those which were about to expire, had already expired, or had been rejected by the manufacturer, says Jimenez.

For security reasons, the center was divided into four units. Frisking was done randomly. Those assigned to a unit are not allowed to cross the boundaries between and among the units. Violators are punished with solitary confinement which lasts from 10 days to two weeks, depending on the nature and extent of the infraction.

Jimenez would always commit the most serious infraction inside the facility, giving out money to inmates through his wife so they could buy more food. This alarmed prison officials, who did not want to encourage a detainee from collecting debts of gratitude from other detainees. Jimenez was kept in solitary confinement for 120 days.

Solitary confinement

"I felt really bad the first time I was subjected to solitary confinement after the warden learned that I had extended financial help to fellow detainees. The emotional distress I was already experiencing because of my detention and the knowledge that my family was disintegrating was compounded by the solitary confinement," he says.

While in solitary, his movement was very restricted because he was chained. There was only enough space for lying down. He ended up eating like an animal. His bathing was likewise restricted. While taking a shower, one arm was manacled alternately.

"The emotional pain was unbearable, so much so that I once felt that I was falling into an abyss and I could see my family falling into it, too. Because my arms and legs were shackled and my whole body was confined in a cramped, dark box. I would slam my head against the confines of that box until I was too numb to feel any more physical and emotional pain. It was depression, plain and simple. Miraculously, I recovered from it all," he says.

"That was when I realized that God was with me and that things were taking place for a divine reason. From them on, everything I did in the facility, I offered to God. That made things meaningful. I felt that everything I did had a purpose and so I offered that to the Lord. I accepted my situation and God helped me make the most of it."

He adds: "Serving my sentence made me rediscover my relationship with the Lord. I have come to realize that real friends are those who remain your friends when you are in need. Unfortunately, the number of real friends I have can be counted with just the fingers of my hands," he says. No Filipino congressman came to see him in jail.

To the hospital

Jimenez never knew when he was going to be released because he was in continuous solitary confinement. "I learned that I was going to be released only when I was being led out of the main door of the facility." Thereafter, he was driven to the airport accompanied by a representative of both the Department of Homeland Security and the Immigration Bureau. At the airport, he saw some the faces of loved ones and friends. "Although I was permitted to interact with them, I was not allowed to make or receive phone calls until I boarded the aircraft bound for the Philippines."

Born Mario Crespo to Ramon Salamat Crespo and Carmen Acosta Batacan, Jimenez is the fourth child in a brood of seven. His father owned and operated Crespo's market in Proj. 6 and Crespo's Supermarket, the first supermarket in uptown Quezon City.

Tess Crespo-Alsua, his only sister, says there was really nothing spectacular about her brother: "That was why his phenomenal success in business merited notice in local business circles and in the corridors of power in Washington DC."

At a young age, Jimenez was sent to the Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary in Makati, but he left when he could no longer take the vow of poverty. He enrolled in economics at the Ateneo University but dropped out in his first year when he met and married his first wife.

Moments of promise

In 1981, he showed moments of promise as a businessman in Manila until his marriage fell apart. Running away with his seven children, he had hoped to find a new life in the US, but his estranged wife had succeeded in putting his name in the hold-departure list of the immigration bureau. He managed to get a new passport from "someone," he says, but it cost him a lot. His new name, "Mark Jimenez" was inspired by his devotion to St. Mark, and the last name of a family friend, Jimmy Jimenez, who helped him find his bearings in the US.

New name or not, his past seems to haunt him, as speculations flew fast and wild about the source of his untold millions. He was a drug dealer and laundered money for the Colombian cocaine cartel, the rumors go, which Jimenez vigorously denies. "If I were a drug dealer, a gun runner and had connections with the Mafia and the drug cartel in Paraguay and Columbia, then I should have been convicted for these crimes in the US and not for illegal political contribution and tax evasion," he says.

The bulk of his wealth, he claims, came from his buy-and-sell business and from computers. In 1984 and with only a $2,000 capitalization, Jimenez says he put up Apex Magnetics in California, a company engaged in buying out-of-brand diskettes such as Verbatim and selling these at discounted prices. In 1986, Apex shifted to selling Seagates hard drives which replaced the diskettes. "In just two years' time, I became very, very rich."

In 1988, Jimenez says he moved to Miami, Florida and replaced Apex with Future Tech International, a computer firm that exported parts to lucrative markets in Latin America, "which was at that time three years behind in computers." He says he managed to convince two American manufacturers of computer components—Quantum Corp. of Milpitas, California and Cyrix Corp. of Richardson, Texas to make him the exclusive distributor of their components in Latin America. Soon, he says, Future Tech was considered one of the top 300 fastest growing companies in America.

Exclusive distributor

Says Jimenez: "Former Justice Secretary Hernani Perez and my detractors asked how I could make money in computers when there's so little margin. Little did they know that I was the biggest and exclusive distributor of Samsung monitors in 28 countries in Latin America and was voted distributor of the year by Samsung many times. I was Quantum's biggest distributor of its hard drive worldwide and that's on record. I was the exclusive distributor of NEC floppy drives, Texas Instrument memories, Canon printers and Nikon electric floppy drives. By 1995, Future Tech was earning $500 million," he claims. It was, however, this same company that would later figure prominently in the tax evasion and illegal campaign contribution charges against him.

In 1994, he met then US President Bill Clinton and wife Hilary when he attended one of the Clinton's fund-raising coffee klatches at the White House. He soon became Florida's largest donor to the national Democratic Party in 1996. A Wall Street Journal report says that Jimenez had contributed more than $800,000 to various Democrat causes and lobbied the Clinton administration on behalf of Paraguay, where his firm had major business interests.

In 1998, Jimenez fled to the Philippines in time for the presidential election, and just before a US justice department campaign-finance task force could charge him with tax evasion. In April 1999, the task force filed the charges in a 47-count superseding indictment. His first indictment was for violation of US election laws which prohibit hard-money contributions from foreign nationals.

Really close

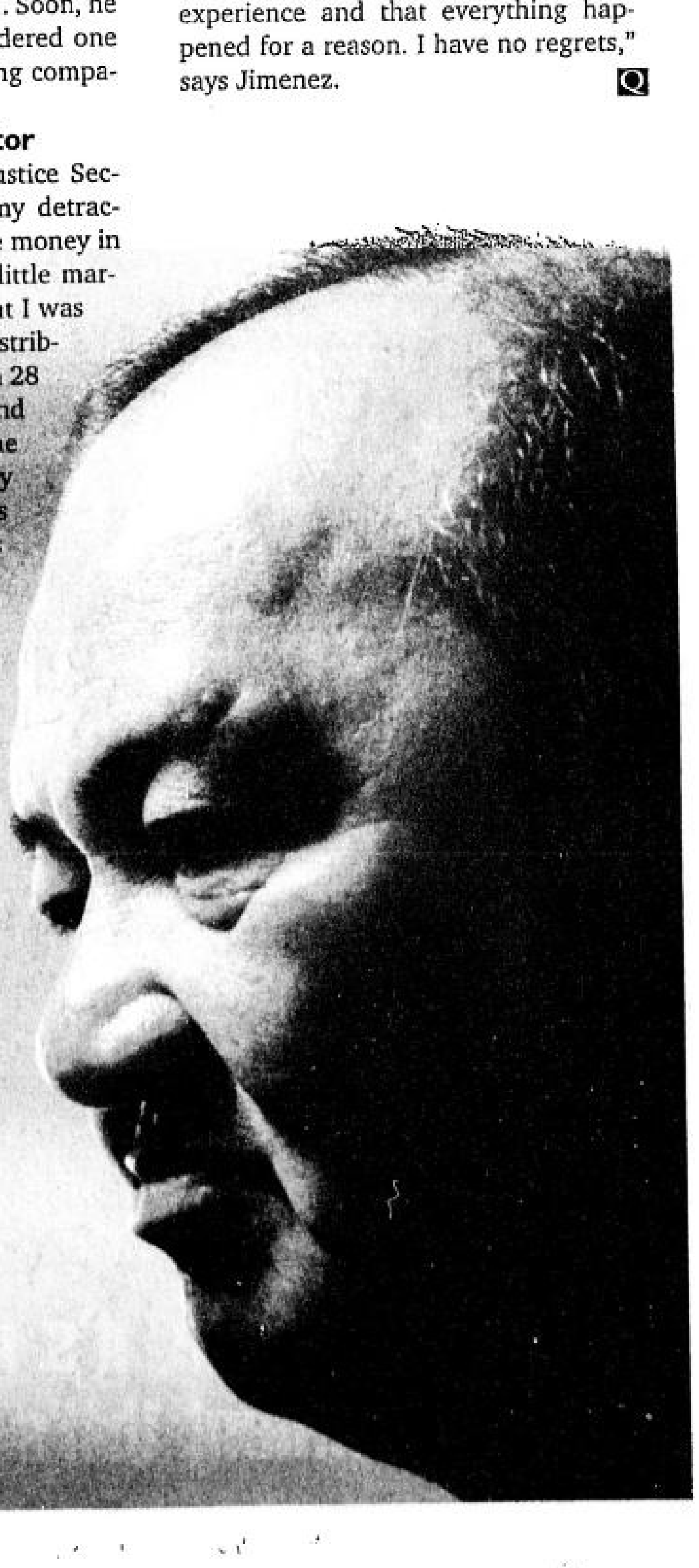
Jimenez was introduced to then President Joseph Estrada by the Zamora brothers, Ronnie and Manny. Impressed by his credentials, Estrada described Jimenez as a "corporate genius" and invited him to help in the government's anti-poverty alleviation programs. They became very close, says Jimenez. "Really close. As close as it can get!"

But soon enough, he had a falling out with Estrada. Some people suspect that it was Jimenez who provided most of the damning documents that implicated the former actor-president during the impeachment trial. After Estrada was ousted by People Power, Jimenez ran for, and won a seat in, Congress.

In 2003, the long arm of American law reached Jimenez in the Philippines. After much stocktaking, he says he considered voluntary extradition and plea bargaining after his US escorts promised to treat him with courtesy on his plane trip back to the US. But that was only a promise, as he later realized.

Upon his release from prison, Jimenez says he immediately flew to the Benedictine Monastery in Malaybalay, Bukidnon to pray with monks to fulfill a promise he made while in detention. The visit stirred in him plans to put up shrines that he claims, would be open 24 hours a day, and would train lay ministers and church choirs to attend to the spiritual needs of the barangay.

"Looking back, I can say that my entire stay in prison has been a learning experience and that everything happened for a reason. I have no regrets," says Jimenez. Q



Realization: Jimenez says he rediscovered God when he accepted that "things were taking place for a reason"

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Mark

...from page 1

With him in prison, his families fell apart, he says. A daughter was on Prozac for five weeks. Another daughter had a total nervous breakdown and is still undergoing rehabilitation. A son turned to substance abuse. Another son ended up drifting from one school to another to avoid classmates' ridicule. Still another became an alcoholic. Another daughter had to sprinkle holy water on his second wife who broke down because she could no longer handle the adverse reports against him.

Emotional trauma

"The money I spent for lawyers is nothing compared to the emotional trauma my family and I had to go through in the course of the litigation," he confesses. "I wish that the costly fees for legal services could include sparing my family from that horrible experience." His families have recovered somehow, but they've all been scarred, he says.

He himself recalls prison life as nothing short of traumatic.

"The US sought my extradition for tax evasion, an extraditable offense, and not for illegal campaign contribution which is not a crime in the Philippines," Jimenez explains. He says only $2,000 per individual is allowed for hard-money contribution. He was sentenced to 27 months in prison, although this was reduced to 23 months.

"I still can't believe it. There I was in an American detention facility for the crime of making an illegal contribution to a political campaign fund," he says. "*Sa Pilipinas, mangurakot ka, magnakaw ka, bida ka. Sa* America, *wala akong ninakaw at nagbigay pa nga ako ng sarili kong pera para sa pinaniniwalaan kong kawsa, kinulong ako*. (In the Philippines, you steal and you plunder and you're a big shot. In America, I stole nothing and even gave of my own money for a cause I believe in and I land in jail). What an irony!"

Jimenez says he was supposed to be confined in a "747" rehabilitation facility in Georgia, socializing with the likes of Martha Stewart and other white-collar offenders, like violators of American securities laws. Instead, he was sent to a minimum security facility in Pennsylvania.

The all-male facility which houses 3,500 offenders does not have the stereotyped features of a detention center, though. It looks more like a resort in a huge compound where only the two main doors are locked. His cell measured five by seven feet and was just like an open room without a door. It had a double deck and a single deck bed arranged like a letter "L" and had a high ceiling.

Prisoner 69335-004

There, he was Prisoner 69335-004, or inmate Mark Jimenez. He was relatively free to move around, subject to regulations. Shower rooms were communal, and there were surprise visits to the rooms for inspection of drugs, liquor and other prohibited substances. The use of the Internet was restricted, while all incoming letters were censored.

Everyone was given two sets of uniforms, of which were khaki. Each one had a nametag on the front of his shirt and another one at the right rear pocket of his trousers. Shoes were also provided.

The population at the Pennsylvania facility is made up of Filipinos, Latinos and blacks. It houses even hardened criminals, but is divided into maximum security, medium security and minimum security sections.

Jimenez says that murderers, rapists, thieves and the like were mixed with petty offenders like him because some offenders in maximum security would be moved to the minimum security section during their rehabilitation period whenever they displayed good behavior. Offenders range in age from 20 to 70, and their crimes are as varied. In general, everybody was cordial to him because he was cordial to them, too. "We Filipinos stuck together, tried to keep a very low profile and befriended as many as possible. At any one time, there are eight to 14 Filipinos in the facility, most of whom are involved in drug or fraud-related offenses," he says.

Jimenez and other inmates would usually be up by 5:30 a.m., in time for breakfast at 6, and work at 8. Each had an assignment, ranging from sweeping the floor to cleaning the house. Roll call was at 12 midnight, 3 a.m. and 5 a.m. There was also a stand-up count at 4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m.

"I was assigned to clean the doorknob, take care of the laundry and, at times, to take out the trash. If you are given, say, three hours to finish your work, you had to be at your station for that entire period even if you were done," Jimenez recounts.

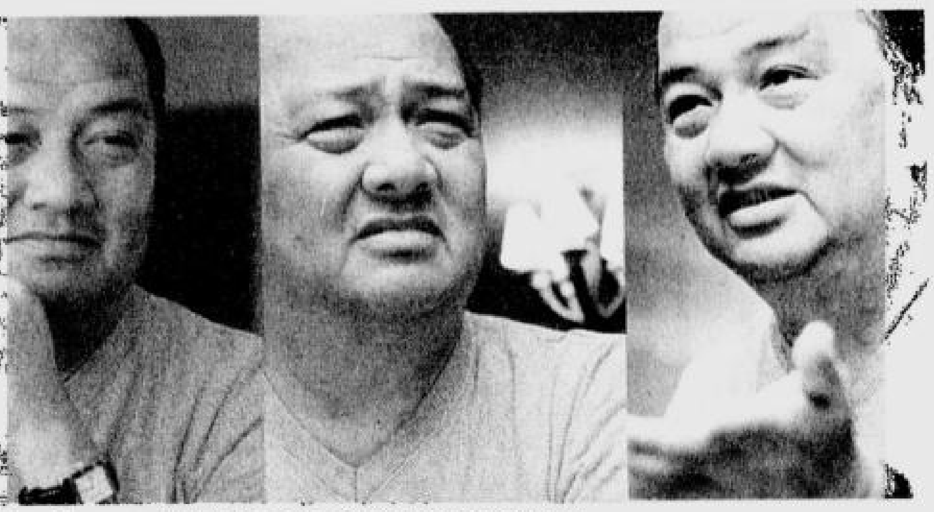
Expired food

Breakfast usually consisted of oatmeal, beans, bread, marmalade, eggs, coffee and juice. Monday lunches featured a leg of fried chicken. All other meals consisted of either fajitas, burgers or hotdogs. Jimenez adds: "It sounds good but the food was largely unpalatable because of the way they were cooked. The fajitas had a bad smell, the burgers were burned, the hotdogs were overcooked, the pancakes felt rubbery. Grocery-obtained food items and beverages were either expired, about to expire, or are factory rejects. I believe that all this was deliberately done so that nobody in the facility forgets that he is under rehabilitation."

Detainees were allowed to make regular purchases from the commissary but within the pre-set ceiling fixed by the facility for everyone. Each detainee had an account for this purpose, duly monitored by the authorities of the facility. Items sold at the commissary were also those which were about to expire, had already expired, or had been rejected by the manufacturer, says Jimenez.

For security reasons, the center was divided into four units. Frisking was done randomly. Those assigned to a unit are not allowed to cross the boundaries between and among the units. Violators are punished with solitary confinement which lasts from 10 days to two weeks, depending on the nature and extent of the infraction.

Jimenez would always commit the most serious infraction inside the facility, giving out money to inmates through his wife so they could buy more food. This alarmed prison officials, who did not want to encourage a detainee from collecting debts of gratitude from other detainees. Jimenez was kept in solitary confinement for 120 days.



Emotional trauma: "It felt like I was falling into an abyss."

Solitary confinement

"I felt really bad the first time I was subjected to solitary confinement after the warden learned that I had extended financial help to fellow detainees. The emotional distress I was already experiencing because of my detention and the knowledge that my family was disintegrating was compounded by the solitary confinement," he says.

While in solitary, his movement was very restricted because he was chained. There was only enough space for lying down. He ended up eating like an animal. His bathing was likewise restricted. While taking a shower, one arm was manacled alternately.

"The emotional pain was unbearable, so much so that I once felt that I was falling into an abyss and I could see my family falling into it, too. Because my arms and legs were shackled and my whole body was confined in a cramped, dark box. I would slam my head against the confines of that box until I was too numb to feel any more physical and emotional pain. It was depression, plain and simple. Miraculously, I recovered from it all," he says.

"That was when I realized that God was with me and that things were taking place for a divine reason. From them on, everything I did in the facility, I offered to God. That made things meaningful. I felt that everything I did had a purpose and so I offered that to the Lord. I accepted my situation and God helped me make the most of it."

He adds: "Serving my sentence made me rediscover my relationship with the Lord. I have come to realize that real friends are those who remain your friends when you are in need. Unfortunately, the number of real friends I have can be counted with just the fingers of my hands," he says. No Filipino congressman came to see him in jail.

To the hospital

Jimenez never knew when he was going to be released because he was in continuous solitary confinement. "I learned that I was going to be released only when I was being led out of the main door of the facility." Thereafter, he was driven to the airport accompanied by a representative of both the Department of Homeland Security and the Immigration Bureau. At the airport, he saw some the faces of loved ones and friends. "Although I was permitted to interact with them, I was not allowed to make or receive phone calls until I boarded the aircraft bound for the Philippines."

Born Mario Crespo to Ramon Salamat Crespo and Carmen Acosta Batacan, Jimenez is the fourth child in a brood of seven. His father owned and operated Crespo's market in Proj. 6 and Crespo's Supermarket, the first supermarket in uptown Quezon City.

Tess Crespo-Alsua, his only sister, says there was really nothing spectacular about her brother: "That was why his phenomenal success in business merited notice in local business circles and in the corridors of power in Washington DC."

At a young age, Jimenez was sent to the Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary in Makati, but he left when he could no longer take the vow of poverty. He enrolled in economics at the Ateneo University but dropped out in his first year when he met and married his first wife.

Moments of promise

In 1981, he showed moments of promise as a businessman in Manila until his marriage fell apart. Running away with his seven children, he had hoped to find a new life in the US, but his estranged wife had succeeded in putting his name in the hold-departure list of the immigration bureau. He managed to get a new passport from "someone," he says, but it cost him a lot. His new name, "Mark Jimenez" was inspired by his devotion to St. Mark, and the last name of a family friend, Jimmy Jimenez, who helped him find his bearings in the US.

New name or not, his past seems to haunt him, as speculations flew fast and wild about the source of his untold millions. He was a drug dealer and laundered money for the Colombian cocaine cartel, the rumors go, which Jimenez vigorously denies. "If I were a drug dealer, a gun runner and had connections with the Mafia and the drug cartel in Paraguay and Columbia, then I should have been convicted for these crimes in the US and not for illegal political contribution and tax evasion," he says.

The bulk of his wealth, he claims, came from his buy-and-sell business and from computers. In 1984 and with only a $2,000 capitalization, Jimenez says he put up Apex Magnetics in California, a company engaged in buying out-of-brand diskettes such as Verbatim and selling these at discounted prices. In 1986, Apex shifted to selling Seagates hard drives which replaced the diskettes. "In just two years' time, I became very, very rich."

In 1988, Jimenez says he moved to Miami, Florida and replaced Apex with Future Tech International, a computer firm that exported parts to lucrative markets in Latin America, "which was at that time three years behind in computers." He says he managed to convince two American manufacturers of computer components—Quantum Corp. of Milpitas, California and Cyrix Corp. of Richardson, Texas to make him the exclusive distributor of their components in Latin America. Soon, he says, Future Tech was considered one of the top 300 fastest growing companies in America.

Exclusive distributor

Says Jimenez: "Former Justice Secretary Hernani Perez and my detractors asked how I could make money in computers when there's so little margin. Little did they know that I was the biggest and exclusive distributor of Samsung monitors in 28 countries in Latin America and was voted distributor of the year by Samsung many times. I was Quantum's biggest distributor of its hard drive worldwide and that's on record. I was the exclusive distributor of NEC floppy drives, Texas Instrument memories, Canon printers and Nikon electric floppy drives. By 1995, Future Tech was earning $500 million," he claims. It was, however, this same company that would later figure prominently in the tax evasion and illegal campaign contribution charges against him.

In 1994, he met then US President Bill Clinton and wife Hilary when he attended one of the Clinton's fund-raising coffee klatches at the White House. He soon became Florida's largest donor to the national Democratic Party in 1996. A Wall Street Journal report says that Jimenez had contributed more than $800,000 to various Democrat causes and lobbied the Clinton administration on behalf of Paraguay, where his firm had major business interests.

In 1998, Jimenez fled to the Philippines in time for the presidential election, and just before a US justice department campaign-finance task force could charge him with tax evasion. In April 1999, the task force filed the charges in a 47-count superseding indictment. His first indictment was for violation of US election laws which prohibit hard-money contributions from foreign nationals.

Really close

Jimenez was introduced to then President Joseph Estrada by the Zamora brothers, Ronnie and Manny. Impressed by his credentials, Estrada described Jimenez as a "corporate genius" and invited him to help in the government's anti-poverty alleviation programs. They became very close, says Jimenez. "Really close. As close as it can get!"

But soon enough, he had a falling out with Estrada. Some people suspect that it was Jimenez who provided most of the damning documents that implicated the former actor-president during the impeachment trial. After Estrada was ousted by People Power, Jimenez ran for, and won a seat in, Congress.

In 2003, the long arm of American law reached Jimenez in the Philippines. After much stocktaking, he says he considered voluntary extradition and plea bargaining after his US escorts promised to treat him with courtesy on his plane trip back to the US. But that was only a promise, as he later realized.

Upon his release from prison, Jimenez says he immediately flew to the Benedictine Monastery in Malaybalay, Bukidnon to pray with monks to fulfill a promise he made while in detention. The visit stirred in him plans to put up shrines that he claims, would be open 24 hours a day, and would train lay ministers and church choirs to attend to the spiritual needs of the barangay.

"Looking back, I can say that my entire stay in prison has been a learning experience and that everything happened for a reason. I have no regrets," says Jimenez. Q

Realization: Jimenez says he rediscovered God when he accepted that "things were taking place for a reason"

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

No cover...from page 3

Mercks. Irene Marcos was there, she's a fan.

I also sang at Wasabi's next to the Peninsula on Makati Avenue and at Rico Puno's place called Corick's Club on Pasong Tamo. The owner of Wasabi's is an old friend who owned the old Left Alone bar at Creekside in Makati. It's a small intimate jazz venue where I sang with just a guitarist. There's jazz history for you!

SIM: Looking back at all the jazz greats you have met and sang with, does anyone stand out?

A: Duke Ellington. He always had simple advice. He leaned to me one time and said, "If it's good music, it's good. If it's bad, it's bad! And you are good!" Then there are Sarah Vaughan, Xavier Cugat, Ellis Marsalis (Wynton and Branford's dad), Ahmad Jamal, Anita O'Day, Phil Woods, James Moody, Nina Simone, Dakota Stanton and Frank Sinatra at the Copacabana in Japan. I knew them all!

SIM: What can you say about Filipino singers of this generation?

A: They seem to shout. They're good, but they have to calm down and take it easy.

SIM: Do the youngsters of today have an easier time in show biz?

A: It's much harder now. Before it didn't even seem like work. It was like playing. I've always been happier when I am singing! Mothers now push their kids to the stage and movies. I never did that to any of my kids, not even Rachel Ann or Richard. I didn't even want Rachel in show biz. I knew how hard it is. My mom and dad were always with us when we performed. It was school and singing in that order.

SIM: What has kept you singing for six decades now?

A: I could sing the whole night! I live to sing and singing keeps me alive. You must sing from your heart. I hate complainers. If you have a headache, well, either don't perform or keep quiet and do your best. Q

Annie with Chuck and Clarence, the boys in the band

In search ...from page 2

plate" (Kiwi for potluck) event.

I have often wondered why I allowed my passion for cooking to remain dormant or untapped all those years, since, as the poet and author Maya Angelou ("I know why the caged bird sings") pointed out in a Newsweek interview, writing and cooking are not entirely unrelated. She said, "Whether the food is cooked in Milan or Haifa or in Cairo, everybody eats... And people dealing with these ingredients and trying to make them come out fresh is the same as trying to write well. The writer comes along and has to take these most common of things—nouns, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs—and put them together in such a way that they seem brand new. The really daring cook must be able to do that as well, but be so fluent in the materials that she or he can put potatoes and meat or fowl and vegetables together in such a way that people would say, 'I've never tasted it like this before.' It's a wonderful challenge."

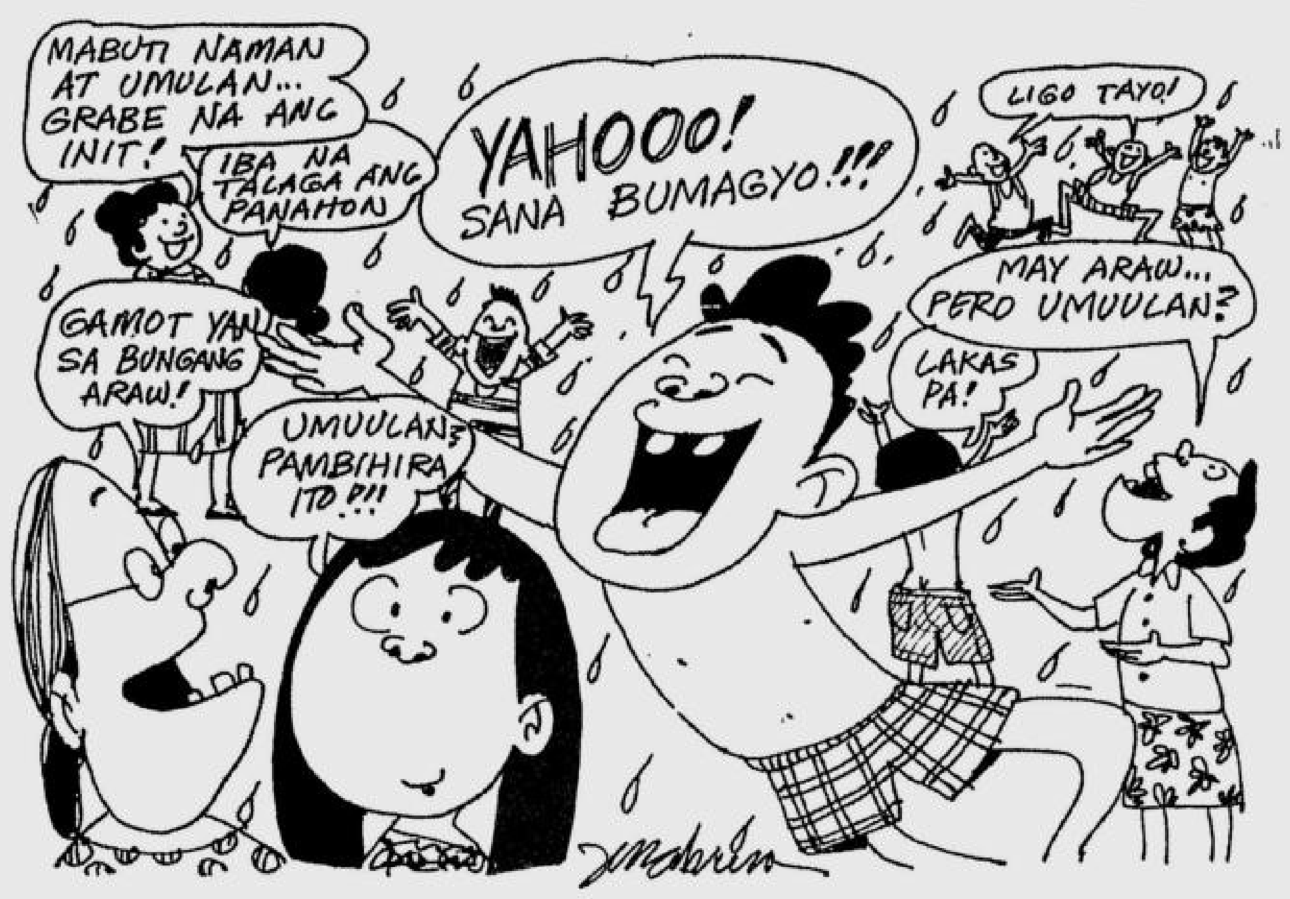
Though I have been writing for a living for over 20 years, and cooking lustily for only about five, I can attest that yes, those words ring true. Indeed, I had to travel thousands of miles to finally confront my demons on the kitchen front. For nearly three decades, I have been searching for the kitchen god. It turns out it had been with me all along. Q

Postcript: The author recently married Rod Alcoriza, a kababayan *from Bulacan who also loves to putter around in the kitchen. They have forged a happy compromise to ensure their compact kitchen in Auckland is not crowded. On weekdays, he cooks most of the viands. The author and her son (now 17, still a fried food junkie but already an able kitchen hand) prepare the side dishes, breads and desserts, and take charge of the menu during weekends and holidays. There is, indeed, a kitchen god.*

Pinoy Nga!

by Jess Abrera

Ulan sa tag-init


MABUTI NAMAN AT UMULAN... GRABE NA ANG INIT!
IBA NA TALAGA ANG PANAHON
YAHOOO! SANA BUMAGYO!!!
LIGO TAYO!
MAY ARAW... PERO UMUULAN?
GAMOT YAN SA BUNGANG ARAW!
LAKAS PA!
UMUULAN?! PAMBIHIRA ITO?!!
JAbrera

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

The sad...from page 8

misses his show biz friends—Joey de Leon, Rey Langit, Vic del Rosario, and the late George Canseco. He wished they'd show up, or call him up once in a while. "But that's okay. When you're famous, illusion is sometimes stronger than reality."

Victor's friendship with Del Rosario, however, is on a different level, he insists. He regards him not only as his talent manager for 16 years, but also a trusted confidante. His relationship with Del Rosario and with Vicor, Victor says, was as strong as that of his own family. Some conflict has arisen over royalty issues, however, many years after Victor's alleged whistle-blowing on the payola system in the local recording industry. He hopes that the friendship will survive the ongoing computation of royalties due him—if he ever gets them. *"Masama ang loob ko sa kanila* (I have a grudge against them)," Victor says.

He gets teary-eyed at the mention of his children by five wives. "I have 12 children, ranging in age from 18 to 30. Except for two who live with me, the rest are all based in the US, and I have not seen them for decades. I also wonder how my 16 grandchildren look."

Victor seems to love the simplicity of life now. "When I die, I will have nothing to bring with me. Fame brought me the good life, in the same manner it had torn me to pieces. I am thankful to the mothers of my children. They were the ones who put order in our lives."

Victor estimates he makes only about P92,000 a year. He does not have any investments these days. He subsists on payments of previous sales of paintings. He has a savings account. His demands in life, he says, are few.

"It's a simple way of living. There's food on the table. I don't go shopping or malling. The lone TV that sits in the furniture-less sala is my sole connection to the outside world. If there's one thing I like to brag about, it was my countless battles with my ego. I have turned hate into love."

That people still call him "idol" is enough assurance that he has not been forgotten. His songs still appeal to the heart. "Physically, you need to be satisfied; mentally, you have to survive, and spiritually—that, you need above all. If you have all three, you are the wealthiest man alive."

So is Victor Wood happy now with his life? It's a question that drives him to tears.

"I am so sorry to all my children, to whom I have not given enough care and concern. I loved my career so much that I put them all in the backseat. I did it then for the love of money, and now I am on a journey that is getting shorter and shorter as the days wear on. Only time will tell. All I know is that I'm looking forward to a painless future someday." Q

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

TV GUIDE

Sunday, March 12, 2006

Sayaw. Drama. Iba.
Shall We Dance?
The Celebrity Dance Challenge
Sunday 9 PM
ABC
Iba Tayo!
hosted by Lucy Torres Gomez

Provided by ClickTheCity.com

For more TV schedules:
1. Visit www.ClickTheCity.com or wap.clickthecity.com.
2. Key in CTC TV and send to 2333 for Globe and to 225 for Smart. PhP2.50 per SMS sent.

Channel	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	[illegible]	[illegible]	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABC 5		Ringside TV		PBA										Shall We Dance?		Dance Fever		Tony Bennett	
ABS-CBN2	A.S.A.P Fanatics		Pinoy Big Brother Buzz		The Buzz				Goin' Bulilit		Rated K		TV Patrol World	Sharon	Pinoy Big Brother	Sunday Family Cinema			
AXN		ISpy				E Buzz	Samsung Sports World	WRC 2006: Mexico		Gamemax (Season II)	Mondo Magic Singapore	When Disasters Strike!		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (Season 5)		CSI: NY (Season I)		CSI: Miami (Season II)	
Cartoon Network	Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends		The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy		The Life & Times Of Juniper Lee	Xiaolin Showdown	Teen Titans	Loonatics Unleashed	Superman The Animated Series	Justice League Unlimited		The Batman	The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy	Battle B-Daman	Power Rangers Ninja Storm	Xiaolin Showdown	The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy	Aqua Teen Hunger Force	Harvey Birdman (11:45PM)
Cinema One		Otso-Otso Pamela-Mela Wan				All My Life				Anak Dalita				Minsan Ko Lang Sasabihin					
Cinemax	Triggermen			An Officer And A Gentleman				It Could Happen To You (5:55 PM)			Boiling Point			Dead Birds			Something To Talk About		
CNN	International Correspondents	World News	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	World News	Next@CNN	World News	World Sport	Larry King Live		World News	Talk Asia	World News	World Business This Week	World News	World Sport	Global Challenges	CNN Business Traveler	Talk Asia	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart Global Office
Discovery Channel				American Chopper		The Greatest Ever		Mythbusters		Hour Asia		Hour China		Dying To Be Apart		The Boy With A Tumour For A Face		Power Zone	
Disney Channel	Lizzie Mcguire	Totally Spies-Double Episodes		Brandy & Mr. Whiskers	Lilo & Stitch	Buzz on Maggie	Mr Bean	Phil Of The Future	Suite Life Of Zack And Cody	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney			Mr Bean	America's Funniest Home Video	Kim Possible	Martin Mystery	Wonderful World Of Disney	
ESPN		Atlantic Coast Conf. Basketball N Carolina Vs Duke				Pro Billiards '05 Sluns Billiards C'ships		World Snooker Tour Trophy Portuns C'finals				Sportscenter Asia		World Pool Masters '02 Semi		World Pool Masters '02 Semi		Mosconi Cup '02	
ETC		Veronica Mars		American Dreams 2		Saturday Night Live		One Tree Hill 3		Rated Oh!	The Insider Weekend	Queer Eye For The Straight Guy		Project Runway		Nip/Tuck (Back-2-Back Episodes)			
EWTN	Pilgrimage To The Shrines Of Eastern Europe	Angelus (3:15 PM)	The Donut Man	Adventures In Odyssey	Deep Conversation: Deep Prayer	Rosary With Mother Angelica	Octavia Dies	Rome Reports	EWTN Bookmark	EWTN Global Showcase		Onward Pilgrims	Mirror Of The Soul	Sunday Mass (SAP) Live			Life Is Worth Living	The Abundant Life	
Fox News		Beltway Boys	Fox News Watch	Fox Report Saturday		Heartland With John Kasich		Big Story Weekend Edition		Beltway Boys	Fox News Watch	Fox & Friends Sunday						Fox News Live	
GMA7	Gigstors	Love To Love		S-Files				Mamwagang Baul		Starstruck 3		Mel & Joey		All Star K		Daddy Di Do Du		Sunday Night Box Office	
Hallmark Channel	The Nanny	The Nanny		Single Santa Seeks Mrs. Claus			Riding The Bus With My Sister			Doc Martin		Child Of Our Time		Mystery Woman: Snapshot			To The Ends Of The Earth		
HBO	The Core				A Soldier's Story (4:45 PM)				Thunderbirds			Now On The Big Screen In March	Something's Gotta Give				Hollywood Homicide		
Hero TV	Babel II	Captain Kuppa	Dear Boys	GPX Cyber Formula	Baki The Grappler	Jester The Adventurer	Super Yoyo	Musumet	Ragnarok	Baron One	Babel II	Captain Kuppa	Hero TV Theatrixx			Fruits Basket	Ragnarok	The Slayers	Musumet
IBC13		EZ Shop		EZ Shop		Home Shopping Network		Home Shopping Network		Legacy Of Hero		Pinoy Action Hits				Iyo Ang Katarungan	EL SHADDAI		
JackTV	Everybody Hates Chris	Arrested Development	Always Sunny In Philadelphia	Family Guy	Dr Katz	Afterburn		Smackdown				Jack In The Box				Trigger Happy TV	Dr Katz	Comedy Central Presents	Premium Blend
Lifestyle Network	Date With Design	Smart Solutions	Country Style	Your Private Island	Fine Living Special		Barefoot Contessa	Everyday Italian	Ciao America With Mario	Food Network Special		E! Entertainment Special						Fashion Trance	
MTV Philippines	MTV Hits		Laguna Beach	MTV Cribs	VH1 Do It Like A Superstar: Dating	Viva La Bam	Pimp My Ride	Got Hitch'd	MTV Screen	The 70's House	Spring Break	VH1 All Access: Outrageous Transformations		VH1's How the Stars Got Hot / Making the Video: Unproducables	MTV Hits	Essential VH1			
MYX		Pinoy MYX Countdown				Take 5	MYX Bandarito	MYX News	Star MYX	OPM MYX	Pop MYX	MYX Presents		MYX Hit Chart				MYX Backtrax	MYX LOG
National Geographic		Terrorism Week				Built For The Kill		When Natural Disasters Strike Back		Seismic Seconds	Rough Trades	Megastructures		Terrorism Week: Reign Of Terror Al Qaeda Calling		Nat Geo Investigates: Terrorism Week, Reign Of Terror, Hostage TV/No Borders		Terrorism Week: Reign Of Terror, Suicide Web	
NBN				Concert at the Park		Paco Park Presents		Tinig ng Bayan (Live)			Inter-Aksyon Sa Bayan	Battle Royale		The Sports List		The Working President	Business & Leisure		Unlimited Diving
Nickelodeon	Drake & Josh	Chalkzone	Trollz	The Fairly Odd Parents	Catscratch	Avatar The Last Airbender	Danny Phantom	Zoey 101	Ned's Declassified School Survival Guide	Dark Oracle	Unfabulous	The Adventures Of Jimmy Neutron	The Fairly Odd Parents	As Told By Ginger	Girls In Love	The Brothers Garcia	The Amanda Show	My Dad The Rock Star	
PBO			Maskup Sa Diablo				Animal Ni Lolo				Radyo				Pure Donna				Ginto1 Plus
Qtv		Joan Of Arcadia		The Prince Of Tennis		Bongga Ka Star		Ang Pinaka...		Pop Star Kids		May Trabaho Ka		Sunday Super Sine				MINT (Music Interactive)	
RPN9		Golf Power	Fistorama		Global Window	WWE Smackdown		JAG		Navy NCIS		Without A Trace		NBA On RPN					The Working President
SBN21				Buhay Pinoy		Sheperds Voice		New Life				Oras Ng Himala		Oras ng Katotohanan		Gabay At Aksyon			
Solar Sports									GWS 10-2006	NBA Game Mavericks @ Jazz					Boxing				
Sports Plus			ACC Basketball Maryland @ North Carolina				Slipstream	Ray Ban Celebrity Poker Challenge		The Ford Championship Highlights		World's Greatest Auto Shows		Raceworld		The Honda Classic Day 3			
Star Movies		Miracle				Under The Tuscan Sun				Alien 3 (7:10 PM)				AVP Alien Vs. Predator			Species (10:45PM)		
Star World		Scrubs	8 Simple Rules	North Shore		Business Week Asia	Travel Asia	Smallville		Malcolm In The Middle	The Simpsons	Oprah Winfrey Show		Koffee With Karan		Coupling (Series 2)		Malcolm In The Middle	Oprah Winfrey Show
Studio 23				PBL Game 2				E Club		Y Speak		Joey	Living With Fran	Will & Grace	F	Dance Tour (10:15PM)	Badminton Extreme		Angel

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Twists of Fate

The sad ballad of Victor Wood

The former Golden Boy of Philippine music has barely survived the ravages of alcohol abuse and severe depression. Today, all he wants is to make a living as a painter, and to finally make peace with his 12 children

by Maria Congee S. Gomez
photographs by Roger Carpio

LIWAYWAY
LIWAYWAY

Singing idol of the '70s on magazine covers, and today (below), painting images from his rustic origins

HE STILL gets depressed, but not as often as he used to, he says.

"Depression is a state of mind," says Victor Wood, who recently turned 60. Here he is, Philippine music's one-time Golden Boy with 34 gold and platinum records and 30 motion pictures, who was almost destroyed by fame and fortune. "I simply think of my successes each time I feel low. What bothers me right now is my unstable financial future."

When asked about his health, however, he quickly rolls up his shirt to prove that he hasn't aged that much, thanks to years of not eating meat. The trademarks are still there: tousled hair (shoulder length and dyed black now), prominent cleft chin, brown eyes, and a 5-foot-10-inch lean frame.

The voice (and other attributes) earned him various titles—Jukebox King, Plaka King, and among the women, *Bukol* (or well-endowed). The Victor Wood style and the texture of that voice has not changed, he insists.

This Friday morning in Pasig, he is awakened for this interview but quickly perks up, talking about the paintings he intends to sell soon. No, he says, he isn't interested in how much he'll be getting from the sale. But a show titled "Sounds of Color" will hopefully take place in March.

We ask him about the supposed love affair with Madame Auring (more on this later) back in 2004, or news reports that he had been shot. "That shooting incident capitalized on the fact that I couldn't be located at that time. I hid from people, because I had had a nervous breakdown. I was aware Bongbong Marcos had figured in a shooting, but I also knew that it wasn't me he had shot. *Basta takot na takot ako noon* (I was so terrified then)."

He describes himself as a "veteran" of psychological problems. It started in childhood rejection, as he never got to know his father, Sgt. Kocky Wood, very well. Confrontations with his mother, Rosario Nobleza, did not do him good, either, and his mother's penchant for constantly changing partners irked the young Victor.

Lonesome self

Luck smiled on Victor in the '70s, though. *"Parang walang katapusan ang tagumpay* (It looked like there was no end to the success)," he mutters. He had a rosy career, and he loved the adulation. But deep inside, he was in turmoil. "I was very lonely, like there was another part of me hiding behind a mask. Each time I saw the curtains go down, I felt my lonesome self coming out, walking a dark alley without seeing light at the other end."

The Jukebox King claims he was literally and figuratively always drunk. He needed to escape reality. He turned to huge doses of Valium, which pacified his frayed nerves "but only while it lasted." When Victor grew more depressed, Valium was no longer enough. "That's when I realized, the more I shone on stage, the deeper the pain became. I became so narcissistic. Even at home I had a big mirror near me to assure myself that my good looks were still there." He battled a nervous breakdown while searching for his father. He would seek therapy at St. Luke's Hospital, and upon the advice of his doctors, cut down on his alcohol.

It was the late '70s when the entire Wood family migrated to the US. Victor thought he'd find peace there. In Woodside, California, he rubbed elbows with former Hollywood stars like Shirley Temple. He co-owned four gasoline stations. He was into real estate and landscaping. He managed the $1.5-million Palm Plaza Restaurant. He was active in the Ninoy Aquino Movement, and counted the Lopezes among his friends. *"Sarap ng buhay* (It was a good life). I was comfortable, I enjoyed the amenities."

Severed ties

The prosperity didn't last, however. Along the way, he lost his investments. His marriage broke down, and he severed ties with his children.

Victor was diagnosed as being manic-depressive with suicidal tendencies. He again underwent therapy at the Stanford University Hospital in California when he began thinking of suicide as the answer to his problems.

How Victor rose above this still amazes him. "I simply said to myself that death is not the final proposition. Childhood poverty and my family's will to survive kept flashing back. I got myself together, prayed harder than I ever had before, and asked for forgiveness. I read the book, 'Cause of Miracles,' which somehow helped me gain a more positive outlook."

When Victor came home to the Philippines in 1998, he had no clear plans. With the Marcoses no longer in power, he thought the Philippines would be full of promise, with an honest, clean and corruption-free government. There were hints that the owners of ABS-CBN were interested in him for some shows, but nothing concrete came about. "I'd be hypocrite if I say I did not expect something," he confesses.

Much, much later, local politics beckoned, and Madame Auring came into the picture. Victor ran for vice governor of Rizal "to institute changes." He knew he had pitted himself against moneyed stalwarts, but this did not worry him. He doesn't regret losing in the polls, either, although he learned that "politics Pinoy style is a murky morass. The Pinoys have a real problem."

Then there was that other piece of news."*Yang kay Madame Auring, nasira ako d'yan* (That thing with Madame Auring destroyed my reputation)." He claims his appearances with Auring in 2004 were part of some manager's publicity stunt. He wasn't aware this involvement would become tabloid news and the damage remains to this day. He says, from time to time, however, he reflects on the cheap ploy as a learning experience.

Rustic origins

Thankfully, there was painting to turn to. Although not a degree holder in art, the informal lessons Victor took up in Germany developed his impressionistic style. The basic painting lessons came after the former actor did a show sponsored by the Caritas Manila Germany Foundation.

"Painting is a point of view—either you have it or you don't. I read art books; then, I worked to discipline my mind."

Victor drew from the images of his rustic origins in Buhi, Camarines Sur, where he was born. The images vary—butterflies, gushing water, fish in nets, rice paddies, supple-figured women, and the majestic Mayon Volcano. He is at home with acrylic and oil. His dream is to combine painting and music in a grand show.

He still feels incomplete, though. He

To page 7